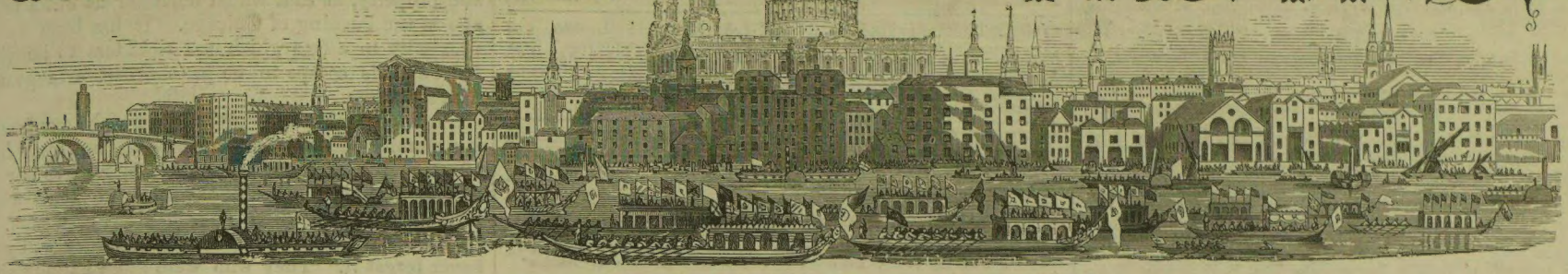


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

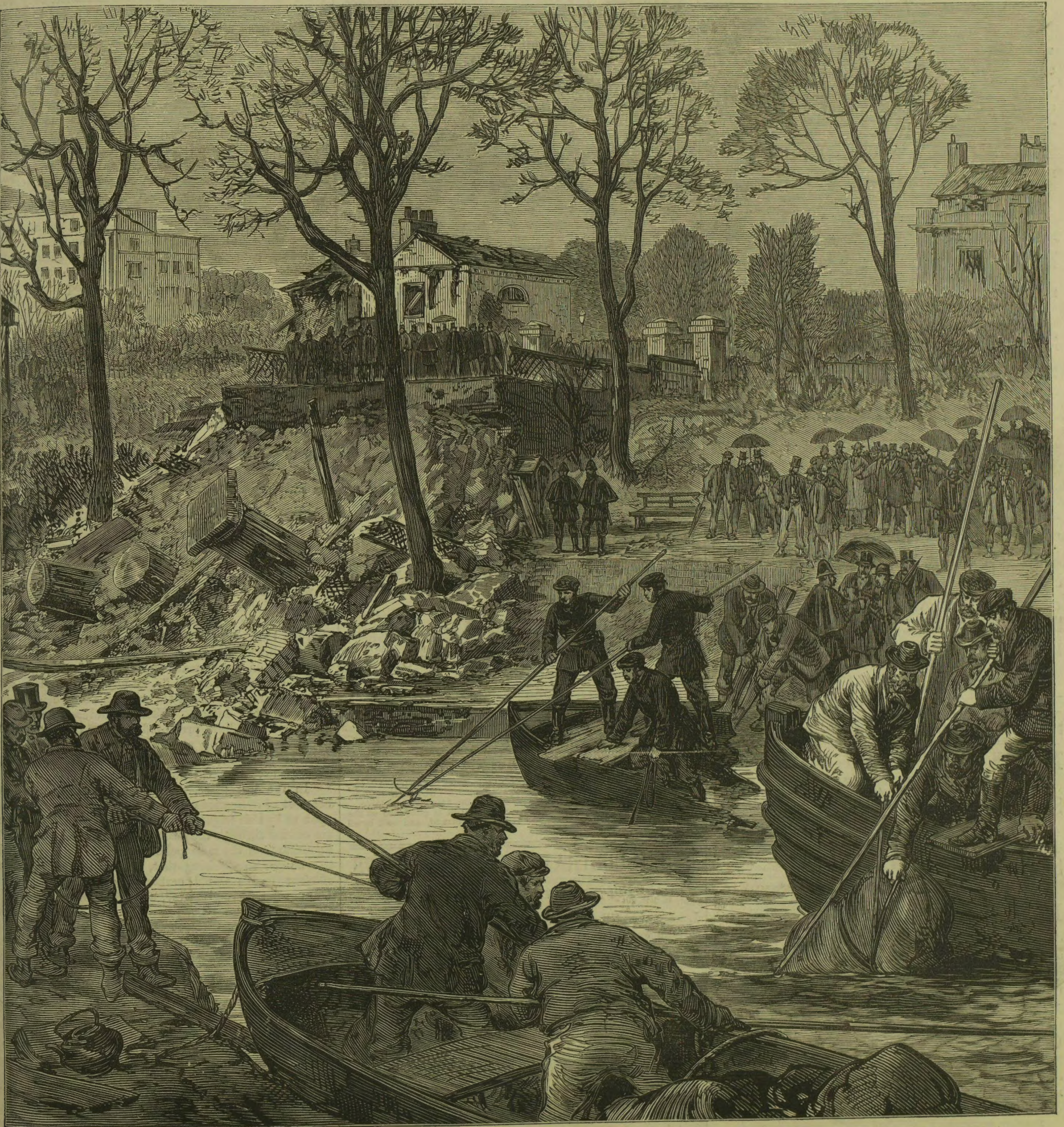


REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST-OFFICE FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

No. 1833.—VOL. LXV.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1874.

WITH {SIXPENCE.
EXTRA SUPPLEMENT { By Post, 6½d.



SCENE OF THE EXPLOSION ON THE REGENT'S CANAL: DRAGGING FOR THE DEAD.

In the last place, we are surely placed under the heaviest of obligations to practise the lesson impressed upon us by this frightful warning. Explosive substances are carried through the heart of London every day. The inhabitants of the metropolis are constantly in proximity to a danger so appalling that, were it fairly appreciated, efficient means would certainly be taken to avert it. Gunpowder, nitro-glycerine, and some other materials of the like kind, are passed to and fro as articles of commerce under restrictions (if restrictions they can be called) so loose that the wonder is, not that accidents should sometimes happen, but that they should happen so rarely. Parliament must see to this. There is no need to legislate in a panic; but what is done should be done quickly, as well as thoughtfully, to shield the population from the peril to which for some time past they have been unconsciously exposed. There is really no insuperable, no very great, difficulty in securely "binding the strong one" until his service is needed. Such casualties as that of Friday morning never happen in connection with either the Army or the Navy, because the storage and conveyance of gunpowder for and by either are always conducted under the strictest regulations. Trade must submit to

some analogous preventive measures. No one desires unnecessarily to interfere with its freedom; but the lives of Her Majesty's lieges ought not to be exposed to the chances of ruin which may be suddenly inflicted upon them by the ignorance or carelessness of those employed in a traffic fraught with possibilities so calamitous.

THE COURT.

The Queen, with Princess Beatrice and Prince Leopold, continue to reside at Balmoral Castle.

The Duke of Connaught took leave of Her Majesty yesterday week, and left the castle for London. His Royal Highness, during the week, visited Madame Van de Weyer at Birkhall, and also went to a deer-drive in Invercauld Forest.

The Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, drove to Abergeldie Mains on Saturday last, and visited the Hon. Lady Biddulph. The Very Rev. Principal Tulloch, of St. Andrew's, arrived at the castle.

On Sunday her Majesty and Princess Beatrice attended Divine service at Crathie church. Principal Tulloch officiated. In the afternoon the Queen and Princess Beatrice visited the Earl and Countess of Derby at Abergeldie Castle.

Her Majesty, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, has taken her usual daily rides and drives.

The Queen has entertained at dinner the Earl and Countess of Derby, the Countess of Galloway, Colonel Farquharson, Mr. George Farquharson, and the Very Rev. Principal Tulloch. Lady Margaret Cecil also joined the Royal family one evening.

The Marchioness of Ely has arrived at the castle. Sir William Jenner left Balmoral on Monday for London. Dr. Marshall remains in attendance at the castle. Principal Tulloch also left Balmoral. The Earl of Derby, who has been Minister in attendance upon the Queen, left Abergeldie Castle, accompanied by the Countess of Derby, for the south.

Prince Leopold takes daily driving exercise.

The Queen has commanded to be erected, in St. George's Chapel, Windsor, a splendid monument in memory of her father, the Duke of Kent.

Lord C. Fitzroy has succeeded Colonel Gardiner as Equerry in waiting to her Majesty.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, with their children, are about to return to England from Denmark.

The Prince visited the Hereditary Prince of Hanover on his arrival, last week, at Copenhagen.

The Princess, with the Queen and Royal family of Denmark, was present at the opening of the session of the Danish Parliament, on Monday, by the King.

THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF EDINBURGH.

The Duchess of Edinburgh attended Divine service on Sunday at the Russian chapel in Welbeck-street. The Rev. Eugene Popoff officiated. On Wednesday her Royal Highness went to the Adelphi Theatre.

The Duke of Edinburgh presided, on Monday, at a meeting of the committee of management of the Royal Albert Hall Amateur Orchestral Society, held at Buckingham Palace. His Royal Highness subsequently left town for Plymouth, where he was received at the railway station by the chief naval and military authorities. The Duke proceeded to Mount Wise, the residence of the Port Admiral, Sir Henry Keppel, G.C.B., where a large party met his Royal Highness at dinner. The Duke on the following day laid the foundation-stone of the new wing of the Royal British Female Orphan Asylum at Devonport, the naval and military forces of the district being called into requisition to give élat to the occasion. The proceedings were opened by the Bishop of Exeter, after which an address was presented by the hon. secretary, Mr. L. P. Metham, (whose mother founded the institution), to his Royal Highness, who gracefully replied. The Duke then laid the stone, and after the ceremony received from various ladies purses of money in aid of the charity, and also lists of the amounts subscribed for the purpose by the several lodges of the Freemasons of Devon and of Cornwall—that of the former amounting to £912, and the latter £140. The Duke, after being entertained at a déjeuner, returned to London. A large concourse of spectators witnessed the day's ceremony, Royal salutes were fired, and the children of the asylum sang.

The Duke and Duchess will within a few days take up their residence at Eastwell Park, Kent. The Empress of Russia will shortly arrive at Eastwell on a visit to the Duke and Duchess, with whom her Imperial Majesty will remain until after the announcement of her daughter.

Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar has returned to England from Germany.

The Prince of Asturias has arrived at Frown's Hotel from the Continent.

His Excellency Count Schouvaloff, the newly-appointed Ambassador from Russia at the Court of St. James's, arrived last week at the Russian Embassy from Germany.

His Excellency the Minister of the United States and the Misses Schenck have returned to their residence in Great Cumberland-place from visiting in Ireland and Scotland.

His Excellency the Chevalier Cadorna has returned to the Italian Legation, Grosvenor-street.

The marriage of Captain Duberly and the Hon. Rosa Sandys is arranged to take place at St. George's, Hanover-square, on the 14th inst.; and that of Mr. Cyril Graham, son of the late Sir Sandford Graham, Bart., with Miss Louisa Hervey, daughter of the Rev. Lord Charles and Lady Harriet Hervey, on the 24th inst. The *John Bull* says:—A marriage is arranged between Lord Richard De Aquila Grosvenor, brother of the Duke of Westminster, and the Hon. Miss Vesey, daughter of Viscount and Viscountess De Vesci; also between Lord Mandeville, eldest son of the Duke and Duchess of Manchester, and Mlle. de Sal a Pina, daughter of the Duchess de Sal a Pina, and granddaughter of the late Lord Thurlow.

The Alloa parochial board, in revising the roll of paupers, discovered that one who had been in receipt of outdoor relief for some years was a strong, healthy woman, in the receipt of £2 9s. 6d. weekly.

The twenty-first year of the Working Men's College, Great Ormond-street, began on Thursday. The teaching is chiefly carried on by members of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge and by former students of the college. The bringing of working men and men of University training together in the common work of teaching and learning is still one of the chief ends for which the college exists. The subjects taught comprise art, English history, logic, English grammar and composition, English literature, Latin, Greek, French, German, arithmetic, algebra, geometry, physical geography, and geology. There are elementary classes to prepare students for the study of these subjects.

ECHOES OF THE WEEK.

Everybody—including, of course, that Admirable Crichton, "the merest schoolboy"—knows the story of William III.'s grenadier who, from the terrace before Windsor's lofty keep, heard the clock of St. Paul's Cathedral strike thirteen—the only flaw in the authenticity of the story being the fact that the southern turret of St. Paul's façade was not fitted with its heretofore arrangements until the commencement of the reign of Queen Anne. Thus, likewise, our omniscient schoolboy will tell us that from his library at Sayes Court, Deptford, old Mr. John Evelyn heard the echoes of the cannonade at the Battle of La Hogue; and that, *mutatis mutandis*, the shock of the earthquake at Lisbon in 1755 (in the occurrence of which casualty Dr. Johnson declined to believe) was felt by persons on board ship a hundred miles out at sea. But I have even a more extraordinary experience to record. I did not hear the sound of the explosion of the Tilbury in the Regent's Canal on Friday morning last, Oct. 2. It is true that the ill-fated craft blew up in the N.W. district, and that I reside in the S.W. Yet I may add that I went down to a newspaper-office in Fleet street, E.C., at one o'clock p.m. on the Friday aforesaid; that I remained there until 4.30; that I walked subsequently into Shoe-lane, and had a talk with a friend over against the office of the *Standard*; that I went down to a club at the West, and wrote several letters; and that it was not until I reached home and cut the leaves of my *Pall Mall* that I knew anything about the horrible casualty which had devastated the Regent's Park that morning. All of which circumstances have led me to the conclusion either that I must be growing parcel-blind and deaf, or else that London is a very great city, in which many thousands of persons know not their right hand from their left. Besides, what says the proverb? Are not the shoemaker's children, as a rule, ill-shod? and did you ever know a millionaire who could give you change for a sovereign at call? It is not the business of the people who write the newspapers to know the news, save when they are told off in the due course of duty to write about passing events. Pastrycooks' young ladies don't eat pastry.

We have been supping full of marvels as well as of horrors since this lamentable disaster took place; but I must confess that I cannot attach implicit credence to the story of the fish scorched to blackness said to have been picked up in Portland-place, and which had presumably been hurled thither by the force of the explosion. And, again, I cannot help thinking that such an anecdote as that relating to the piece of suet-pudding dredged up from the mud of the canal, and supposed to be the last refreshment partially partaken of by the unhappy barges, had been better left untold. What we have to do, I apprehend, is first to be thankful that the accident did not happen an hour later, when the streets would have been full of mechanics and labourers going to work; next to aid, by every means in our power, the noble efforts set on foot by Mr. Gerstenberg and other well-to-do dwellers by the Regent's Park to help the poorer inhabitants of the districts whose homes have been broken up; and, finally, to insist that the very strongest Governmental pressure shall be brought to bear on canal companies, manufacturers, and traffic agents to render the transport of explosives, so far as is humanly possible, innocuous. I notice that attention has been called in the press to a patent process for making gunpowder temporarily combustible by mixing it with sand, which is to be subsequently removed by sifting. But would not the gunpowder be stronger than the sand, and would the carefullest of sifting entirely free the powder from clinging impurities of silica? Some years ago, if I remember aright, an analogous process, of which great mystery was made, was tried on Woolwich-common, in the presence of the supreme military authorities, and with perfect success. The non-explosive agent employed was understood to be finely-powdered glass, which would neither burn nor explode, but fuse, and so completely control the powder. In any case the use of double barrels for explosives *in transitu* should be insisted upon; and I should be glad to hear from some expert whether the qualities of safety of such double casks might not be enhanced by filling up the cavity between the outer and inner sides with plaster of Paris, or some other non-conducting substance.

"Barry Cornwall" is dead; and his passing away has evoked a very sympathetic notice from the *Times*, which tells us that Mr. Bryan Waller Procter, better known by his literary pseudonym, was born in the year 1787 or in the early part of 1788. He would thus have been more than eighty-six or nearly eighty-seven at the time of his death. But the late, *cheu!* the late Mr. J. M. Bellew tells us in his charming compilation, "Poets' Corner," that Bryan Waller Procter was born in 1790. It does not matter at all. The gifted poet and excellent man who is gone had enjoyed for more than half a century the very brightest literary fame; and that Curtin whose advent at the hand of the Great Anarch was so gloomily predicted in the "Dunciad" will indeed "cover all" ere, in English letters he who told us that "Gamarra is a dainty steed," he who wrote "The Stormy Petrel" and "The Admiral," shall be forgotten. Barry Cornwall was as essentially a song writer as that exquisite French lyrist of whom Béranger wrote—

Je disais aux fils d'Épicure :
"Réveillez par vos joyeux chants
Parry, qui suit de la nature
Célébrer les plus doux penchants
Mais les chants qui la joie inspire
Font place aux regrets superflus :
Parry n'est plus !
Il vient d'expirer sur sa lyre
Parry n'est plus !

And Parry died on the verge of ninety. Anacreon lived, they say, to be a prodigious age; and I like to hear of patriarchal poets, because I like to think that the "Longevity of man," about which Mr. J. W. Thoms is writing, just now, with so much genial wisdom, can be promoted by the study and the love of good and beautiful things. Mr. Procter's reward from a grateful country was to be made a Commissioner in Lunacy; but the post, although seemingly strange as a guerdon for a poet, was a lucrative one, and decidedly preferable to Burns's excisemen-ship. It is odd, moreover, that three most distinguished English men of letters—Bryan Procter, Samuel Warren, and John Forster—should all have been made Lunacy Commissioners. Can the Government have held that "great wit to madness nearly is allied"? Ambrose Phillips was a Commissioner of Hackney Coaches, Gifford Paymaster of the Band of Gentlemen Pensioners, and Wordsworth Stamp Distributor for Westmorland. We must take what we can get and be thankful. "I have often regretted that you were not in the Navy," wrote a First Lord of the Admiralty, not quite a hundred years ago, to a provincial journalist who had helped him in some electioneering matters.

Just now I quoted Béranger's beautiful farewell to Parry. The mention of the more illustrious *chansonnier* reminds me that the evergreen French actress, Virginie Déjazet, to whom one of the grandest of complimentary benefits, "organ-

ised" by the Paris *Gau'ois*, was recently given, has been, as a *sacré de triomphe*, received by the "Société du Caveau," and acclaimed as honorary president of that harmonious symposium. Do you know what the "Caveau" was like in its palmiest days, say, in 1815? Well, imagine Evans's subterranean supper-rooms in the palmiest days of Mr. Paddy Green, when the little round tables, towards the small hours, used to find such occupants as Charles Dickens and William Makepeace Thackeray, as Douglas Jerrold and Albert Smith, as John Leech, and Mark Lemon and Horace Mayhew, *e tutti quanti*, and when sometimes "Morgan John" would, in the richest of *setto voce*, declaim with immitable verve and humour Thackeray's own "Shannon Shore," and poor dear Peter would make of the well-remembered room with the pictures a very Vauxhall of witty intellectual anecdotes; and, when the gas began to wane, a score of good fellows would light up the hall with twice "fifty thousand additional lamps." But imagine Evans's to be as exclusive as the Garrick, and the "professional vocalists" to be replaced by amateur singers, who sang songs of their own writing and composition, supping merrily, *et buvant sec*, in the intervals, and you may form some notion of what the old Paris "Caveau" was like—Béranger's "Caveau," established in honour of the memories of Piron, Panard, Gallet, and the Crébillons. Désangiers was president of the "Caveau" in the '15, and thither Béranger was solemnly conducted for the first time by Arnault, Count Regnault de St. Jean d'Angély, and a brother of Marshal Suchet. Those were heroic days. But the glories of the "Caveau" are not wholly extinct. Mlle. Déjazet is fully worthy of the honour conferred on her; for was she not the impersonatrix, ever so many years ago, of "La Lisette de Béranger," and of the incomparable "Frétilion"? Madame Déjazet—*l'une et l'autre se dit*, is now—never mind how old. A lady is as old as she looks; and, dressed as "Monsieur Garat," Déjazet does not look now much older than five-and-twenty. What is age? Brave old George Cruikshank is quite a boy still; and yet I have before me the "Mornings at Bow-street," just republished by Messrs. Routledge, in which the delicious little illustrative vignettes were drawn on wood by George nearly fifty years ago.

Of the establishment of new clubs there seems to be no end. The New Naval and Military is rapidly raising its audacious and very splendid head right in front of Marlborough House, and depriving the illustrious dwellers there of what little remained of the meagre allowance of light and air which was formerly enjoyable from the north; the Temple Club, coalescing with the Civil and Military, offers its members the advantages of two clubs at once; I hear of at least two "Wanderers" Clubs; of new clubs in the City and at South Kensington; and, finally, of a "Public Service Club," a proprietary one of the most approved West-End order, but with a moderate entrance-fee and subscription. All commissioned officers in the army, navy, militia, or yeomanry; all diplomatists, consuls, and civil servants generally; all colonial governors, peers and their sons, baronets, M.P.'s (past and present), lords lieutenants, deputy lieutenants and high sheriffs; all justices of the peace, barristers, and members of the learned societies, are to be eligible for membership of the Public Service Club. Is it through accident or design that poets, painters, and musicians have been excluded from the "eligibles"? If there were a Parnassus Club, how the members would fight, to be sure! Such a club would necessitate the admission of lady members; and ere long the Muses would try to strangle the Pierides. The Public Service Club seems an excellent idea, nevertheless.

G. A. S.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

The Lady Mayoress resumed her receptions on Tuesday. They will be continued every Tuesday in the present month.

The directors of the Alexandra Palace Company have decided to open the new palace, with a musical performance, on May 1, 1875. It is stated that the building is rapidly advancing.

The increase of work in the financial department of the Post Office has necessitated the appointment of an additional financial secretary, and Mr. Stevenson A. Blackwood, of the Treasury, has been selected for that office.

The 36th Middlesex (Paddington) and the 37th Middlesex (Bromsbury) Rifles have concluded their annual rifle contests for prizes of the value of upwards of £500. In both competitions excellent shooting was made.

Another distribution of surplus bedding-out plants from the public parks among the working classes and poor of London is to be made this autumn by order of the Commissioners of Works, and applications for the same are invited.

Resolutions were passed at a meeting held at Guildhall, last Saturday, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor, in support of the proposal of a "Hospital Saturday," among the working classes of the metropolis on Saturday next, the 17th inst.

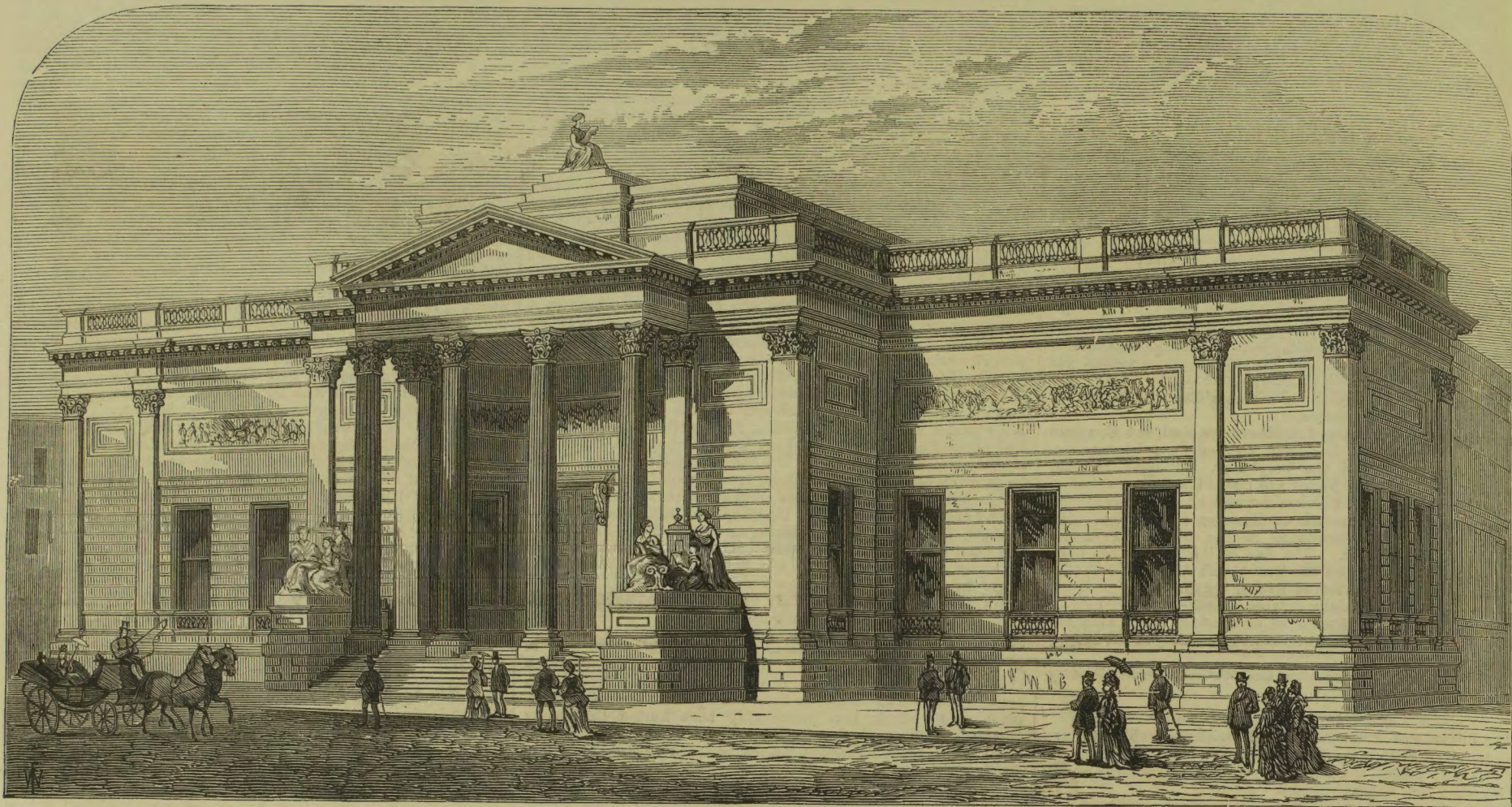
The forty-sixth anniversary dinner of the Butcher's Charitable Institution took place, on Tuesday, at Willis's Rooms—Mr. Thomas Williams in the chair. The subscriptions amounted to over £700, the chairman subscribing £50.

The collection of naval models formerly exhibited at the South Kensington Museum has been transferred to the Royal Naval College at Greenwich. The collection, which has been rearranged and enlarged, will be open for the inspection of the public every day of the week (except Friday and Saturday) on and after Monday, the 13th inst., between ten and four.

The weekly return of metropolitan pauperism shows that the total number of paupers last week was 91,191, of whom 33,089 were in workhouses and 57,382 received outdoor relief. Compared with the corresponding week in the years 1873, 1872, and 1871, these figures show a decrease of 6635, 9892, and 26,222 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 565, of whom 377 were men, 157 women, and 31 children.

At a meeting of the London School Board, on Wednesday, a motion by Mr. F. Peek, that the managers of denominational schools should be invited to transfer them to the board on condition of an hour's religious instruction, was postponed for a month. A proposal by Mr. Lucraft, that an inspector of drawing should be appointed, was afterwards considered, and a general feeling was expressed that the question should be referred to the management committee.

There were 2155 births and 1163 deaths registered in London last week. Allowing for increase of population, the births were 171 and the deaths 262 below the average numbers. The annual death-rate from all causes, which in the two previous weeks had been equal to 19 and 17 per 1000, was last week 18. The 1163 deaths included 4 from smallpox, 8 from measles, 107 from scarlet fever, 8 from diphtheria, 16 from whooping-cough, 25 from different forms of fever, and 33 from diarrhoea. The 25 deaths from fever were but half the corrected average weekly number, but the deaths from scarlet fever exceeded the number in any week since the winter of 1870-1, when the disease was severely epidemic.



THE WALKER ART GALLERY AT LIVERPOOL.

THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH IN LIVERPOOL.

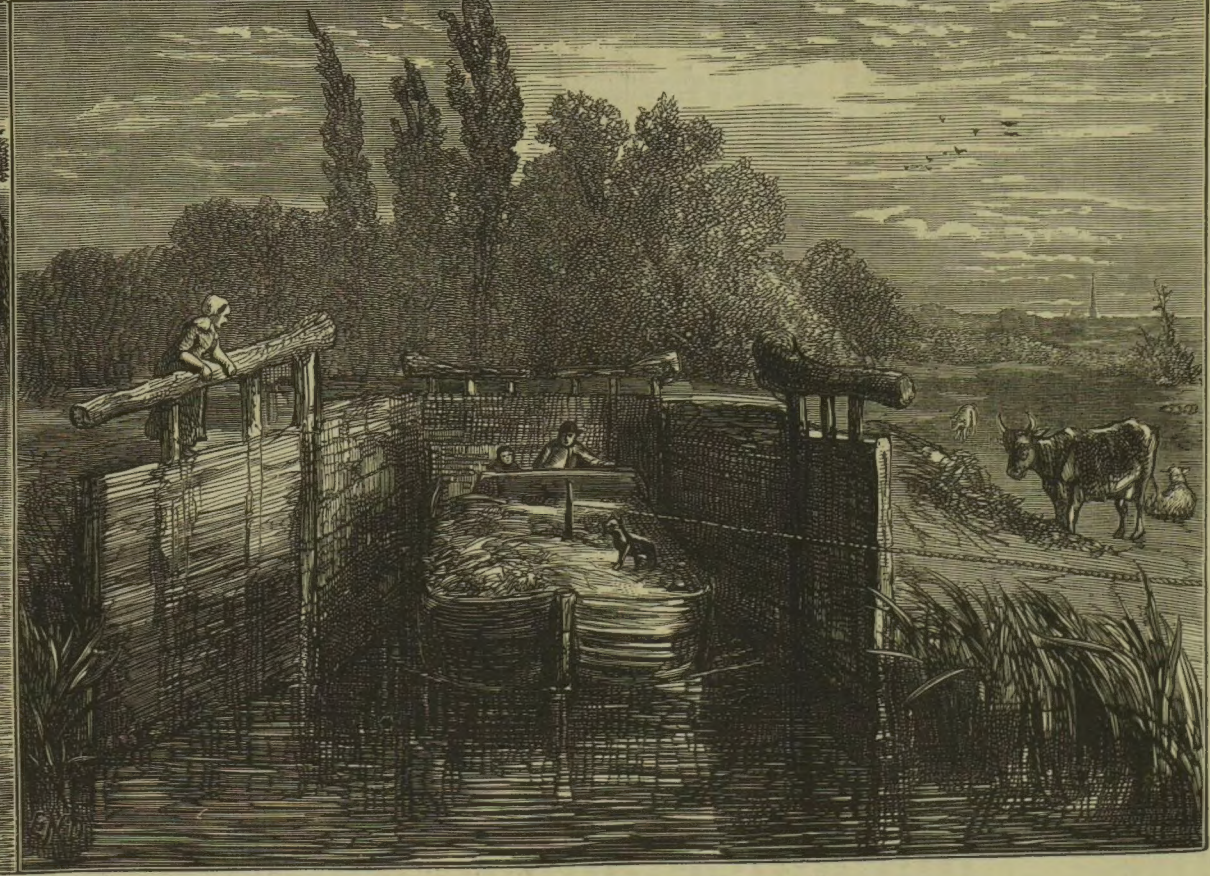
The proceedings in Liverpool, from the Monday to the Thursday of last week, during the visit of the Duke of Edinburgh, were described in our last. There was, first, on the Monday afternoon, soon after his arrival, the laying of the foundation-stone of the Art Gallery, munificently presented to the town by Mr. A. B. Walker, the Mayor. There was also, on the Wednesday, the opening of the Seamen's Orphanage. We gave, last week, a view of the building of the Seamen's Orphanage. The two ceremonies are now represented among our Illustrations in this Number, and a view of the design for the Walker Art Gallery is also presented. The architects of this building are Mr. Cornelius Sherlock and Mr. H. H. Vale.

It is of the Corinthian style, having a portico of four fluted columns with carved capitals, surmounted by a pediment crowned by a figure of Art. A group of statuary is on each side, representing Science and Literature. The façade will extend 70 ft. to the right and 70 ft. to the left of this central portico, which will be approached by twelve steps. A medallion cornice and open balustrade, at a height of 50 ft., will terminate the elevation; and the front will be still further enriched with appropriate sculptures. The interior will comprise two large galleries, 70 ft. long, and two galleries 46 ft. long, by 30 ft. or 35 ft. wide. The present Mayor will have bestowed this gift on his fellow-townsmen at a cost of £20,000. It will stand beside the Free Library, given in like manner by the late Sir William Brown; the site is behind the

south end of St. George's Hall. In laying the stone, as shown in our Illustration, his Royal Highness was accompanied by the Mayor of Liverpool, the Archbishop of York, Lord Sandon, M.P., Mr. Torr, M.P., Mr. C. Turner, M.P., and other gentlemen. The ceremony on the Wednesday, at the opening of the Seamen's Orphanage, was still more interesting. The Archbishop of York again lent his assistance, while Mr. Ralph Brocklebank, Mr. James Beazley, and other managers of the institution received the Duke of Edinburgh with an address, explaining its benevolent objects. A procession of 1500 seamen, with bands of music and banners, walked from St. George's Pier through Water-street, Dale-street, Lime-street, London-road, and West Derby-road, to the new building of the Seamen's Orphanage. It is near the house in Newsham Park,



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH OPENING THE SEAMEN'S ORPHANAGE, LIVERPOOL.



CANAL LIFE: 1. BARGES CROSSING EACH OTHER; 2. ON THE ROAD; 3. AN EVENING HALT; 4. THE LOCK

where his Royal Highness was entertained as guest of the town. A large number of other seamen, belonging to the North American, West Indian, Pacific, and other steam-ship companies of this port, with those of H.M.S. Caledonia, and the boys of the Indefatigable, the training-ship in the Mersey, formed a guard of honour. The proceedings were in the usual simple form. Another incident of the Royal Duke's visit to Liverpool, which forms the subject of an illustration, is one of the performances of the Liverpool Musical Festival, repeatedly attended by him, at the Philharmonic Hall. These were noticed among the other musical entertainments of last week.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our Correspondent in Paris.)

Thursday, Oct. 8.

The results of the elections to the Councils-General, which took place on Sunday, have been scrutinised with intense interest, as affording an index to the state of feeling existing in the country. In ordinary times—or, perhaps, to speak more plainly, under a perfectly-established régime—these elections count politically for little or nothing, local claims and interests being considered paramount to party ones. But on the present occasion the contest has assumed a thoroughly political character, and almost all the candidates have thought it necessary to put forward addresses embodying what is styled their profession of faith. Local influence and recommendations have, no doubt, held their own in most cases, since the labours of the gentlemen elected will be confined to purely local objects; but, at the same time, there is every reason to regard the general result of the contest just concluded as foreshadowing that of a general election to the Assembly. The returns, which are as yet incomplete, show but a slight change in the already existing proportion of party elements. Out of 1411 seats the non-Republican party—under which head are to be classed Monarchists, Septennatists, and Bonapartists—are to be credited with having won seventy-two; whilst, on the other hand, the Republicans have gained fifty-one. Thus the net loss to the last named is twenty-one seats. In some departments they have lost their existing majorities, but this has been made up for by unexpected victories in other quarters. Still, they remain individually the strongest numerical party.

The chief success must, however, be regarded as falling to the Bonapartists, who have made good progress. The seats lost by the Republicans have, in most instances, been snapped up by them, the pure Monarchists remaining very much in the same proportion as before. Corsica has, as might have been expected, proved true to Imperial traditions, only one Republican having been returned. A very important feature in relation to the struggle in this locality lies in the fact of it having brought face to face two rival members of the Bonaparte family. Prince Jérôme Bonaparte and Prince Charles Bonaparte each claimed to represent the canton of Ajaccio, and the former supported his cause by the publication of letters formerly addressed to him by the late Emperor, and recognising him as an official candidate. To counteract this Prince Charles put forward a letter written by the Prince Imperial to M. Franceschini Pietri, requesting him to proceed to Ajaccio and to support Prince Charles's candidature. The breach already existing between the two branches of the family will be yet further widened by this epistle, the tone of which plainly shows that the Prince Imperial affects the position of an official pretender. That it has not been without weight is shown in the return of Prince Charles by a large majority. The difference existing between Prince Jérôme and the bulk of the Imperialists has also borne fruit in the coming electoral contest for the department of Seine-et-Oise. M. Maurice Richard, who was Minister of Fine Arts in 1872, has published a letter opposing the election of the Duc de Paloue, the Bonapartist candidate, on the ground that he was one of the men to whom the fall of the empire was due.

The fortnightly sitting of the Permanent Committee, held last Thursday, was chiefly remarkable for the judicious absence of Duc Decazes, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, who thereby escaped some, perhaps, troublesome questions put by members of the Right respecting the recall of the Orénoque from Civita Vecchia. The usual little outbreak that distinguishes these sittings was on this occasion provoked by M. de Mahy, who was rather too hasty in alluding to the conduct of the authorities in the disturbance at Meze on the anniversary of Sept. 4. His intemperate language created some confusion, and resulted in a well-merited reproof and formal denial by M. Tailhand.

The electoral committees are, of course, hard at work in those departments where the voting takes place on the 18th inst. M. Gérard, who opposes the Duke de Padoue for the department of Seine-et-Oise, declares himself, in his address, as essentially anti-Bonapartist. M. Brusme, who was defeated by a Bonapartist at the last general election, has again consented to come forward, in the Republican interest, for the Pas de Calais.

Marshal MacMahon remains at Laforet, and it is said that his return to Paris next month will be signalled by a series of fêtes at the Elysée. Meanwhile M. Thiers continues a sort of propagandist progress through Italy. He keeps in view the object of removing from the minds of all with whom he is brought into contact the objections they may entertain to the establishment of a Republic in France. Meanwhile, in Paris, the departure of M. Tailhand and the Vicomte de Gramont for London has been counterbalanced by the arrival of Prince Napoleon and the Grand Duke Constantine.

ITALY.

A Royal decree has been issued dissolving Parliament. The elections are to take place on Nov. 8 and 15, and the new Parliament will meet on the 23rd of that month. Garibaldi has issued an address to the electors, in which he recommends them to vote for all those persons who are now in prison for political offences.

Signor Minghetti, President of the Ministry, at a banquet given in his honour by his constituents on Monday, made a statement with regard to the financial condition of the country. He said that the deficit for 1875 would amount to 54 million lire, but that it would be met by conventions with the railway companies to the extent of 20 millions, by 12 millions of taxes already sanctioned, and by 22 millions, the produce of an assignment of the octroi and customs dues.

SPAIN.

Marshal Serrano officially received Mr. Layard and the Comte de Chaudordy, the representatives of Great Britain and France, on Saturday last. The former said the British Government had recognised the Spanish Government from a desire to show the sympathy felt by the Queen and people for Spain, and their confidence in the power of its rulers to triumph over the present crisis. The French Ambassador in his speech referred to the desire of his Government to maintain good relations with that of Spain, and to see the temporary difficulties disappear by which those relations might be disturbed. Both

Ministers, in addressing Marshal Serrano, styled him President of the Executive Power, saying nothing about the Republic.

Rumours have prevailed that Don Carlos has been seriously wounded in the stomach by a ball. But, according to the official Carlist organ, Don Carlos was quite well on Tuesday, and at the head of his army. He has given General Dorregaray leave of absence to enable him to recruit his health. A Madrid telegram states, however, that Dorregaray has gone to France owing to differences with Don Carlos, and will be succeeded as commander-in-chief of the Carlist forces by General Mendiri. From Madrid we also learn that at Agramon, on the Madrid and Carthage railway, the Carlists have burnt two trains and the station itself. A Carlist band, under Madrazo, has been defeated in New Castile, with a loss of twenty-seven killed, four of whom were officers. Many of the band were captured, including seventy-seven wounded. Other successes over the Carlists are reported.

SWITZERLAND.

M. Ruchonnet, of the Vand, has been elected President, and M. Staempfli Vice-President, of the National Council.

It is given as the principal result of the International Postal Congress, that the postage for the whole of Europe and to the United States will be 2½d. for the half-ounce letter. The post-card is to be half that sum—according to the convention. A 2½d. stamp is to be issued in England. July 1 next is the date named for the new arrangement.

HOLLAND.

General Van Swieten, the commander of the Acheen expedition, has been entertained at a banquet by the Colonial Minister. The health of the General and his officers was proposed by the Prince of Orange.

The Government has received a despatch from Acheen, dated the 2nd inst., announcing that the fortifications of Langkroek were captured and occupied on the 28th ult. The enemy was surprised and took to flight.

AUSTRO-HUNGARY.

The Empress, on her return from England, arrived at Baden-Baden last Sunday morning, and was received by the Emperor and Empress of Germany and the Grand Duke and Duchess of Baden. Her Majesty left for Vienna in the afternoon.

The Emperor has created a number of life peers. Among them are the Chevalier von Schmidt, Baron Sina, and Count Widmann Sedlnitzky, who are styled in the telegram prominent representatives of the industrial classes.

The order of the Iron Crown has been conferred upon the three officers who took part in the recent exploration of the Arctic region, and the silver Cross of Merit, with crown, upon all the sailors belonging to the expedition.

Prince Primate Rauscher, the Cardinal Archbishop of Vienna, has published an address to his clergy, in which he accuses the German Government of an attempt to extirpate Christianity, and compares it to the Paris Commune.

GERMANY.

Count Arnim, formerly German Ambassador to Paris, was arrested at his residence, near Stettin, on Sunday morning, after his house had been searched by the police, but without result. The cause of this step is stated to be that the Count has retained in his possession certain documents, which he considers private, but which the German Foreign Office regards as official. After his arrest he was removed to Berlin, and confined in the State prison there under close surveillance.

Hostilities have been resumed by the Prussian Government against the ecclesiastical authorities at Posen. A Catholic vicar, having failed to comply with a notice to leave the province within twelve hours, was forcibly ejected. Dr. Janisewski, a suffragan bishop, has been tried at Posen for having unlawfully performed the rite of confirmation, and having arrogated to himself the powers of a bishop. For the first offence he has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment; but judgment on the second count has been deferred.

Fifteen more persons have been tried at Königsberg for participation in the riots in East Prussia. One of the prisoners was acquitted, and the rest were found guilty and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment or penal servitude from six months to three years.

DENMARK.

In opening the Parliament at Copenhagen, on Monday, the King delivered a speech from the throne in which he stated that his relations with foreign Powers were friendly, and referred to the North Schleswig question, remarking that, though the political situation would not allow of a settlement at present, the Government hoped that a satisfactory solution would be arrived at.

In connection with the visit to Copenhagen of the Crown Prince of Hanover, under the name of Count de Hoya, it is stated that a marriage is in contemplation between him and the Princess Thyra.

RUSSIA.

Livadia is to have a second relay of Imperial visitors from St. Petersburg. The Cesarewitch and Cesarevna, with their family, have proceeded thither via Nicolaieff. They are accompanied by the Grand Duke Vladimir.

It is announced that the Empress will leave Livadia on the 15th for England. Her Majesty is expected to remain in this country for six weeks.

Disturbances have broken out in Central Asia. Some of the Khokan tribes have been plundering a tribe under Russian protection, and the Jekke Turcomans are quarrelling among themselves. The Russians have demanded redress in the first-mentioned matter, and the second is believed to be favourable to an extension of their political influence.

TURKEY.

Sir Henry Elliott, the English Ambassador at Constantinople, is said by a Vienna paper to have been instrumental in bringing about an agreement among the Imperial family relative to the Sultan's succession. Prince Murad, the legal heir and nephew of the Sultan, has had his legal rights recognised. In return he undertakes to allow the Sultan's eldest son to retain his rank of Generalissimo, and to confirm his younger cousins in all their high offices and appanages.

AMERICA.

The Massachusetts Republican Convention has nominated the present Governor for re-election.

Affairs in Alabama are reported to be growing serious, a White League having been organised and armed, and political murders being committed daily.

A short cotton crop is reported in the State of Georgia. In twenty-three counties the yield is estimated at a quarter less than that of last year.

The award to the British claimants made by the mixed Commission appointed under the Treaty of Washington was, by the terms of the treaty, to be paid within one year from the date of award. The American papers state that at noon on Sept. 21 the amount of the award, 1,929,819 dols. in gold, less 2½ per cent allowed for expenses, was paid over by the State Department to Mr. Watson, the British Chargé in Washington, and Mr. Howard, agent of our Government.

In the match for Mr. Gordon Bennett's long-range champion

prize the Irish rifle team has fared better than it did in the international competition. The Irish papers print a telegram from New York stating that the Irish team won by a majority of fifty-two. The American team has accepted a challenge to shoot another international match at Dublin in 1875.

AUSTRALIA.

After a six months' journey of six hundred miles, the exploring expedition, under the command of Mr. Forrest, from Western to Southern Australia, has arrived at its destination. The country crossed was a desert, and water was scarce.

INDIA.

In that part of India which was lately visited by famine favourable rains are still falling everywhere, except in the Burdwan and Hooghly districts, and the winter crops are considered secure. About 600,000 persons are at present supported by relief works and charity; but the Government expenditure for these objects is expected to cease on the 15th inst., and will probably prove below the estimate.

A Bombay telegram notes the arrival and official reception of Sir Charles Staveley, the new Commander-in-Chief of the Bombay troops. Sir A. A. Spencer left for England on Monday.

JAPAN.

Two important items of news are telegraphed from Yokohama. The assassin who murdered Herr Haber, the German Consul at Hakodadi, has been sentenced to death; and the Mikado has expressed his regret at the occurrence. The German Minister demands that the wearing of swords near the foreign settlement should be forbidden.

According to advices from Peru, the Government has decided to stop the removal of guano from the Chincha Islands.

An Imperial decree has been issued in Morocco prohibiting the export of cereals for three years.

A scientific expedition to the Amu Daria has reported that the navigation of the river is perfectly practicable for steamers with a three feet draught.

A telegram from Belgrade announces that a conspiracy against Prince Milan has been discovered, and that many arrests and seizures of arms have been made.

The Sanitary Record states that of 1000 children born 502 attain the age of twenty years in France, 654 in the United States, 662 in England, 670 in Sweden, and 742 in Norway.

The Academy states that M. Tascheran, Administrator-General of the Paris National Library, has been allowed to retire on a pension, with the title of Honorary Administrator; and that he is succeeded by M. Léopold Delisle, sub-director of the department of the manuscripts.

From Pernambuco we have confirmation of the news that an insurrection has broken out at Buenos Ayres. The National Guard has been mobilised, the Chamber is sitting permanently, the newspapers are suspended, and a state of siege has been proclaimed in several provinces. The exodus of foreigners from Buenos Ayres has begun, and every steamer leaving the port had to be escorted by a man-of-war of its own nationality.

Advices from the Gold Coast to Sept. 15 state that Mr. Strahan, the new administrator, had been sworn in. A mission to the King of Denkra to demand the release of Ashantee prisoners had proved successful. A fine of thirty ounces of gold was imposed upon his refractory Majesty. The Whydah natives are in revolt against the King of Dahomey, and refuse any longer to serve under his rule.

Fears of an inundation have been excited in Egypt through the rising of the Nile, but the Government has made great efforts to avert any disaster. According to official reports, the natural decrease of the Nile has begun and regularly continued in Upper Egypt since Sept. 6. The actual high-water mark in Lower Egypt is only maintained by letting out again the water from reservoirs. In Upper Egypt the maximum of height has been attained. Official reports state all dykes to be in excellent condition. Every precaution has been taken.

THE NEW LICENSING ACT.

The new law on the closing of public-houses under the Licensing Act, passed in the late Session, takes effect this day (Saturday).

All premises in which intoxicating liquors are sold by retail are to be closed on and after this day, if situated in the metropolitan district, on Saturday night from midnight until one o'clock in the afternoon of the following Sunday; on Sunday night from eleven until five on the following morning, and on all other days from half an hour after midnight until five o'clock on the same morning. If situated beyond the metropolitan district and in the metropolitan police district, or in a town or in a populous place as defined by the Act, on Saturday night from eleven o'clock until half an hour after noon on the following Sunday; on Sunday night from ten until six o'clock the following morning, and on the nights of all other days from eleven until six o'clock the following morning.

If situated elsewhere than in the metropolitan district or the metropolitan police district, or such towns or populous places as stated, on Saturday night from ten o'clock until half an hour after noon on the following Sunday; on Sunday night from ten o'clock until six o'clock on the following morning, and on the nights of all other days from ten o'clock until six o'clock on the following morning. Such premises, wherever situated, save as mentioned, are to be closed on Sunday afternoon from three or half-past two, according to the hour of opening, to be one o'clock in the afternoon or half an hour after noon, until six o'clock.

Wherever situated, the premises are to be closed on Christmas Day and Good Friday and on the days preceding Christmas Day and Good Friday, as if Christmas Day and Good Friday were respectively Sunday and the preceding day Saturday, but the provision is not to alter the hours during which the premises are to be closed on Sunday when Christmas Day immediately precedes or succeeds Sunday.

The exemption as to public-houses near theatres in the principal Act is repealed. "The grant of an order of exemption under the said 26th section as amended as aforesaid may be made to any person licensed to sell beer or cider by retail to be consumed upon the premises, as well as to any licensed victualler or licensed keeper of a refreshment-house. The grant of a licence under the 29th section of the principal Act may be made to any person licensed to sell beer or cider by retail, to be consumed upon the premises, as well as to any licensed victualler or keeper of a refreshment-house in which intoxicating liquors are sold." Beyond the metropolitan district the licensing justices may vary the hours of closing on Sunday afternoon, and the same to be advertised for a month before its operation. There are provisions as to early closing licenses, which came into force on the passing of the Act.

The 24th section of the former Act is repealed as to the hours of closing.

Major Wilkinson, of Bridlington Quay, Yorkshire, chief detective inspector of the East Yorkshire Constabulary, has been elected head constable of Bath.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

The sport on the concluding days of the First October Meeting was by no means so good as on the Tuesday; still, there were some interesting two-year-old races. On the Thursday the "blue, white, and red" of M. Lefevre, which is so thoroughly identified with Newmarket, disappeared, and was replaced by the scarcely less familiar Gladiateur colours of Count Lagrange. The new confederates carried off the very first race of the day with confidence, a "dark" sister to Boulet, who, in Fordham's hands, won the Rutland Stakes very easily. The French stable was again successful in a Produce Stake; for, though Mirliflor (whose training was sadly interfered with by his recent accident) was not started, Régala proved quite good enough to beat her seven opponents. Garterly Bell was second; but he is a very moderate colt; indeed, we fear that Lord Falmouth's juveniles are not nearly good enough to recompense him for his misfortunes with his three-year-olds. Lord Wilton is singularly fortunate with Modena, as, in spite of the brilliant speed she has shown on several occasions this season, she is never crushed with weight, and added the Moulton Stakes to her other numerous victories. A sweepstakes over the T.Y.C. was rendered very interesting by the debut of Coomassie, a filly by King Tom or North Lincoln—Mahala, and probably own sister to the flying Chopette. Rumours of her excellence had been pretty widely circulated, and she made the most fearful exhibition of her field, cantering home about fifteen lengths in front of Mary White, all the rest being tailed off. Nearly everyone went home on the Thursday night, so the attendance on the heath on the following day was very small, while the weather was of the very worst Newmarket type. A great trial that Ecossais had won, and in which he defeated Drummond and Blenheim, made him favourite for the October Handicap. The heavy rain, however, appeared to completely upset him, and he was the absolute last throughout. Napolitain (7 st. 8 lb.) and Tichborne (6 st. 13 lb.), who were the only other ones backed with any spirit, kept him company in the rear, and the finish was left to Wild Myrtle (6 st. 13 lb.) and Lady Patricia (6 st. 13 lb.), the former of whom wore her opponent down in the last hundred yards, and won pretty cleverly. An interesting race between Horse Chestnut and La Sautouse, over the last half of the B.C., ended in the easy victory of the former. He is a son of Lord Lyon and Golden Horn, and clearly possesses much of the speed of his half-brothers, Wild Oats and Reverberation. He had only run once previously, in the Chesterfield Stakes, when Balfe cut down the whole field; and he has not incurred a penalty for the Middle Park Plate next week.

The coursing season has now fairly commenced, and the meeting of the Ridgway Club (Lytham) last week attracted a very large company. More than a hundred puppies came out for the North and South Lancashire Stakes, the former of which, Mr. L. Pilkington, a new member of the club, was fortunate enough to divide with Palestine and Palmer, two very promising puppies by Countryman—Chivalry. In the fourth ties Palestine met Farrier; but, before they had gone many yards, the latter broke a knee joint in jumping a drain, an accident which was a sad loss to his owner, as he had refused a long price for him, and, moreover, the dog appeared to have a great chance of securing the stake. In the South Lancashire Stakes Beeswing, a daughter of Cavalier and Bacchante, ran exceedingly well; though in the final course Amity, by Cavalier—Gentle Bess, was a little too good for her. The Clifton and Lytham Cups introduced us to some old friends. In the former Bandon Bells, Brigade Major, and Crown Imperial II. all went down in the first round; old Tyrant succumbed in the second ties; and eventually Barmby, by Cauld Kail—Bab-at-the-Bowster, and Bannockburn, by Strange Idea—Lucerne, divided. Mr. Hedley gave the greatest satisfaction as judge, and Wilkinson slipped admirably throughout the three days.

We have passed over Mr. Stanton's two bicycle matches from Bath to London without comment, because they were entirely unauthenticated; but on Monday last he attempted to ride one hundred miles in eight hours and a half at Lillie-bridge, and, though he failed, his performance was an exceedingly good one. He covered ninety-six miles in 8 h. 10 min. 53 sec., but was then compelled to stop, being completely exhausted. The first fifty miles were done in 3 h. 49 min. 2 sec.; and there can be no doubt that Mr. Stanton, despite the Bath fiasco, is a first-rate bicyclist.

The great double-sculling match between Boyd and Lumsden and Thomas and Green will take place, on Thursday next, from Putney to Mortlake. The northern pair have arrived in London, and all the men appear to be in the best of health and condition.

The autumn meeting of the London Athletic Club will take place at Lillie-bridge on Saturday next. The entries number over 200, and the hundred-yards and half-mile challenge cups will both produce races. The first event is set for three o'clock.

The project of erecting a statue to Mr. Bass, M.P. for Derby, has been abandoned, at his request.

It is stated that an exceptionally large group of spots is now visible on the surface of the sun. They may be perceived with smoked glass without the aid of a telescope. According to Mr. W. F. Denning, of Bristol, the spots cover an area of nearly 78,000 miles.

The autumn session of the Baptist Union of Great Britain was opened on Monday, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, when there was a large gathering of ministers from all parts of the country. After a special service in Berwick-street Chapel, the Rev. Arthur Mursell, of London, preached a sermon from the second verse of the 19th Psalm, and made a direct allusion to Professor Tyndall's recent address at Belfast. He said, while allowing full scope to human inquiry, such effort should not be made in scientific research unaccompanied by the light of faith. Attention was mainly directed, on Tuesday, to missionary effort and to the importance of a good supply of Bibles in the language of the country selected for missionary effort.

Where all the pianos go to seems somewhat of a mystery, for a really good instrument will last a lifetime; and yet every year thousands are made by each of the great London manufacturers, while the numbers made by the 200 or more smaller firms must represent an enormous number in the course of each year. The improvements made in English pianos have caused this trade rapidly to increase, until one pianoforte manufactory after another has been built to supply the growing demand. One of the largest of these, lately erected by Messrs. John Brinsmead and Sons, of Wigmore-street, covers nearly an acre of ground in the Grafton-road, Kentish Town, and is intended to accommodate 600 workmen. These works alone can supply 3000 pianos annually, and there are at least three manufactories in London capable of making an equal number. The growth of musical study among all classes may account for much of the increasing demand for pianos; but the great improvements lately introduced in the manufacture of English instruments and the excellence of their workmanship are, no doubt, the chief causes of the greatly-increased numbers required for exportation to all parts of the globe.

The Extra Supplement.

"THE DUEL."

In this forcible and striking picture of animal life, Mr. S. Carter has portrayed the mortal conflict of two mountain eagles, falling together, in their fierce grapple with each other, amidst the terrified herd of deer that graze a highland pasture. All is wild in the scenery around them, as in the nature and habits of the living creatures here assembled. It is "nature, red in beak and claw," as Tennyson says, that rages in the air of this remote hill-side, where in calm weather one might look for peace. It is nature such as Landseer used to study and copy, that of the noblest beast of chase, the horned monarch of the moor, with his attendant hinds and fawns, which occupies the ground to which the birds descend in their furious death struggle. The attitude and expression of these mighty combatants remind us of the two great European Powers which fought so desperately on the Moselle and the Meuse four years ago. Eagles are the inevitable symbol of a modern Continental Empire, whether French, Austrian, Prussian, or Russian, as of the ancient Roman. They cannot be expected, like Bottom's lion, to "roar you as gently as any sucking dove."

THE CHURCH.

PREFERRMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Curtis, Benjamin, to be Perpetual Curate of St. George's, Portsea. Fellowes, T. Lyon; Vicar of Cumnor, Berkshire. Forester, O. Watkin Weld; Chancellor and Canon of York Cathedral. Hole, W. B.; Vicar of St. Luke's Maidenhead; Vicar of Bray. Kempe, J. W.; Assistant Curate of St. John-the-Divine, Kennington. Lang, Owen Charles Seymour; Vicar of Frensham. Marsh, John William; Rector of St. Michael's, Winchester. Mengens, A. G. Munro, Curate of Fladbury; Curate of Upton-on-Severn. Milroy, A. W.; Chaplain of the Rolls Chapel, Chancery-lane. Phelps, Henry Cecil; Vicar of St. James's, Ashted, Birmingham. Pope, W. John Pittfield; Vicar of Nether Corne. Shaw, Glencairn A.; Rector of Ast n Sandford, Bucks. Smith, Granville B. B.; Vicar of St. Lawrence's, Ipswich.

Bishop Colenso arrived in England by the Cape mail-steamer which reached Plymouth yesterday week.

The company appointed to revise the authorised version of the Old Testament concluded their twenty-fifth session, yesterday week, at the Jerusalem Chamber. The revision was continued as far as 2 Samuel vii. 8.

The Patriarch of Syria, who was accompanied by the Syrian Bishop of Jerusalem, distributed the prizes to the successful students at St. Clement's and St. Andrew's High School, Lancaster House, Notting-hill, on Thursday week, and afterwards delivered a brief address and the benediction.

At a conference, last week, of clergy and laity in the diocese of Rochester, presided over by the Archdeacon of Amersham, there was a lengthy discussion on the question of Church patronage. The majority of the speakers expressed themselves against the sale of next presentations. A resolution was proposed recommending that it should be rendered illegal, but the previous question was carried.

The Bishop of St. Asaph delivered his triennial charge to the clergy at Wrexham last week. Amidst a variety of other topics, he referred to the doctrine of the Adoration of the Elements, the position of the minister, and the Public Worship Regulation Act. He impressed upon his hearers the importance of Sunday schools, and urged the establishment of branches of the Church of England Temperance Society.

Lord Eliot, the eldest son of the Earl of St. Germans, spoke at a church missionary meeting held last week in the Cornish town from which his father derives his title. Lord Eliot declared that it was never more urgently the duty of the Church of England to be hearty in the propagation of the Gospel than at the present time. No man could fail to see that there was at least a possibility, if not a probability, before long of the termination of the union between Church and State.

The report upon the transactions arising out of Queen Anne's Bounty during the past year is brief but cheerful. The general receipts and payments of the board of governors show an increase over 1872 of more than £100,000 on each side of the account. Large sums as "benefactions" entered into the year's receipt, which have been met by augmentations out of the funds at the disposal of the board. Seventy-nine benefices have thus been augmented by £200 apiece.

A new society has been formed, under the presidency of the Bishop of Winchester, assisted by the Bishops of Carlisle and Edinburgh, the Dean of Manchester, Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P., Mr. J. G. Talbot, M.P., Mr. H. Cecil Raikes, M.P., Mr. T. Salt, M.P., Prebendary Clark, and many other gentlemen, as vice-presidents and council, for the purpose of promoting the reunion with the English Church of Nonconforming bodies holding the doctrines of the Trinity, the Incarnation, the Atonement, and other fundamental tenets of the Christian faith.

A handsome stained-glass window has been erected in the Church of Holy Trinity, Clapham-common, Surrey, to the memory of the late Rector, the Rev. W. H. Wentworth A. Bowyer, M.A., who died in 1873. The window is of an exceedingly artistic character, designed and executed by Messrs. Ward and Hughes, at a cost of £400, which has been defrayed by the voluntary contributions of the parishioners, to whom the late Rector by his unvaried courtesy and large-hearted benevolence, for upwards of twenty-four years, had greatly endeared himself.

The Church Congress at Brighton was opened, on Tuesday, with an address from the Bishop of Chichester, the president, in which he indicated the subjects for deliberation. Afterwards the Bishop of Winchester read an interesting paper on the Old Catholic movement on the Continent, narrating its history, commenting on the progress it has made, and pointing out what he thought would be its future. Differences of opinion prevailed as to the perfect soundness of the conclusions arrived at by the Conference of Old Catholics at Bonn. At the evening sitting the question of home missions occupied the attention of the meeting. Foreign missions, Convocation, and Church patronage were among the subjects discussed on Wednesday. In the course of the proceedings a telegram conveying the greeting of the American Church Congress at New York was received and replied to. The principal subjects for consideration have been Mohammedanism and other Oriental systems of religion, convocations of the Church of England, primary and secondary education, the adaptation of the fabrics and services of the Church to the wants of the times, scepticism; the spiritual life, its helps and hindrances; the influences of social and sanitary conditions on religion, and the education of women. The Earl of Chichester has invited the members of the congress to pay a visit to his house and grounds at Stanmer Park on Saturday.

THE UNIVERSITIES AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

From the report of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the property and income of the Universities of

Oxford and Cambridge, it appears that these establishments hold land in England and Wales to the extent of 319,718 acres, and that their total income in 1871 was £754,405, of which £614,587 was derived from external sources and the rest chiefly from internal taxation.

Mr. Edwin Bailey Elliott, B.A., and mathematical demy of Magdalen College, was elected, on Tuesday, to a mathematical fellowship at Queen's College, Oxford.

Dr. William Webster Fisher, M.D., Downing Professor of Medicine in Cambridge University, died on Monday morning at his lodge in Downing, having held the appointment since 1841. The general secretary of the local examination (the Rev. G. F. Browne, St. Catherine's) announces that the next examination, which begins on Monday, Dec. 14, will be held at sixty-seven centres for boys and at forty-seven centres for girls. Of these seventeen are new centres.

With the opening of other college classes, those for the Higher Education of Women, established in connection with University College by the London Ladies' Educational Association, will begin next week their seventh session. The number of class tickets taken last session was 476, an increase of sixty-eight, and the number of individual students, increased by thirty-six, became 315. This addition of more than 300 ladies to the 900 other students who are in regular attendance at the class-rooms of University College is the result of a serious experiment made by the Professors of the Faculties of Arts and Science in the college, with assent of the council. Last session examinations were added to the work of the ladies' classes, and certificates founded upon the results of them were given by the Ladies' Educational Association. Two evening classes for governesses at a reduced fee have been successful.

On Monday afternoon the department of the Fine Arts in connection with University College was opened, and an introductory address delivered by Mr. Slade, professor, and Mr. E. J. Poynter, A.R.A.

Professor Huxley opened the new school of medicine which has been established in connection with Owens College, at Manchester, yesterday week, and delivered an address, in which he dwelt upon the importance of a careful study of the mechanism of the human body, and spoke of modern medicine as a kind of engineering.

The opening lecture of the coming winter session at King's College was delivered yesterday week by the Rev. A. Barry, D.D., Principal of the college. In the course of a long and able address Dr. Barry dwelt largely on the progress of education in England during past years, and the hindrances which stand in the way of its future advancement, and which must be overcome. Dr. Barry concluded with some remarks on the working of King's College, and the night classes in connection with it, from which so much good had resulted.

The thirteenth annual session of the City of London College, Leadenhall-street, began on Monday. The inaugural address was delivered by Dr. Morell, on Thursday evening. The success which has attended the efforts of the council during the past five years is most encouraging, the number of students (now more than 1500) having doubled in that time.

The Powis Exhibition has this year been awarded to Mr. T. J. Evans, of Ruthin School. The examination was held at Birmingham, by the Rev. M. Thomas, Fellow of Jesus College, Oxford, and Mr. W. E. Heitland, Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge. The exhibition is of the annual value of £50, tenable for four years, and is open for competition to persons born in the Principality.

Colour-Sergeant Charles Hedges, third battalion Grenadier Guards, who is the best shot of the Army for 1873-4, has been awarded a prize of £20 and a silver medal.

At a meeting of the North Staffordshire Chamber of Commerce, held at Hanley, on Monday afternoon, it was resolved to open an exchange on Jan. 6 next.

About twenty-four European and American vessels are named in a further list of casualties in connection with the typhoon at Hong-Kong. Some of these are reported lost, others missing, and the rest more or less damaged. Southern Japan, like Hong-Kong and Macao, was visited by a typhoon, with disastrous results. Three hundred lives were lost and a thousand junks and six thousand houses were destroyed by it.

Sir George Campbell attended a public meeting in Cupar Fife, last week, and proposed a resolution in favour of classes being formed in connection with the Government Department of Science and Art.—At Colchester, Mr. James Round, M.P., presided at a large public meeting, at which were distributed the prizes gained in recent public examinations in connection with the Science and Art Department, Kensington. Mr. Buckmaster gave a lecture in advocacy of scientific education, and showed how Government encouraged this by grants of public money.—The prizes and certificates gained by the students connected with the Bristol Evening Classes Association were distributed on Monday evening, at the Colston Hall, by the Bishop of the diocese, at a numerously-attended meeting, presided over by Mr. Lewis Fry, chairman of the Bristol School Board.—Mr. John Floyer, the junior member for Dorsetshire, distributed the prizes of the School of Art, Dorchester, on Tuesday evening. He, in an address, commended the cultivation of the arts among the working classes, not only as of pecuniary value, but because the love of art enhanced the enjoyment of work.—The prizes and certificates gained by the students of the Science classes at Cambridge, in connection with the Science and Art Department of the Committee of Council on Education, were distributed on Thursday week at the Guildhall by Mr. Alfred Marten, Q.C., M.P.—Sir Charles Adderley, M.P., presided on the same day at the opening lecture on "Political Economy," in connection with the Cambridge University lecture at Hanley. The Hon. A. J. Lyttelton was the lecturer.

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THE DISASTER ON THE REGENT'S CANAL: HALF AN HOUR AFTER THE EXPLOSION.



CANAL LIFE: TEA-TIME ON A "MONKEY BOAT."

SCENES IN COURT.

If our jest-books are to be relied upon—as in a certain rough and general way they probably are—the larger portion of the time of Justice Maule and some of his most eminent contemporaries was devoted to airing their eccentricities in sayings and doings which, however amusing to themselves and the public, must have considerably impaired the dignity of the Court and wasted its time; and in American trials of the present day “Judge Smith” and “Judge Brown” appear to be the established jokers of the nation. In France, on the other hand, the Judge often takes the part of counsel for the prosecution, and attacks the accused man with a stagey passion of reproach unparalleled among the Bar of Old Bailey; with an occasional agreeable variation into a light comedy way of viewing what on this side of the Channel we are accustomed to consider among the gravest of crimes—looking on them, as the other day in the case of Madame Huc, with an easy, amused interest, and from an artistic rather than a moral point of view.

In the England of to-day, however, we flatter ourselves that our laws are administered in a very different manner and spirit—that, simply, of a strict attendance to business and dignity. The counsel confine themselves generally to the business of proving their cases, the Judge to his duties of punishing crime and maintaining morality and order; and how far these objects are made paramount may be seen at once by any attendant at a court of justice during, say, a trial for murder. There is a real solemnity about the Judge's powerful, impassive face, his absolute supremacy and freedom from petty arrogance and prejudice, which has always impressed observant foreigners, as it would ourselves, were we not, happily, accustomed to take the sight for granted.

But of late a slight backward tendency has, we fancy, been apparent, most likely owing to the unnecessary fulness of the reports in the daily papers, and the attempt to make them not only interesting but amusing to general readers. This was, perhaps, first made prominently noticeable by the sensation caused by that greatest godsend the newspapers ever had—the Tichborne trial, described by a news-vender as “better than a war” by a young lady not interested in the case as “worse than Parliament.” Every day were chronicled verbatim the comic remarks of cross-examining barristers, the dulness or naiveté of witnesses, and the perpetual “scenes in court” between Bar and Bench—in which, by the way, the latter so fully proved themselves worthy of the praise we have above given them; and since that time even such petty scenes as the unseemly quarrel between Coroner and jury last week have been chronicled more fully and elaborately than the decision of jury or magistrate, or the evidence on which that decision hung.

Now, the position of a Judge with the least taint of human vanity is a dangerous one, at the best of times,—the obsequious laughter of the court follows so invariably the mildest joke, the most commonplace and venerable retort to a stupid witness or refractory juror. Does not everyone who has ever been at school remember how fond the master generally was of hackneyed jests and feeble puns on the pupils' names—with what hearty, boyish laughs his sallies, so often heard, and by the sharper boys so profoundly scorned, were always received? But when, in addition to the ready applause of the moment, one sees next morning one's repartee printed in half a dozen papers, one must surely feel (unless one has sufficient sense to be ashamed of the poor little witticism) that the reputation of a wit—a legal Sheridan, a Hood of the bench—once acquired, should be worthily sustained by a rapid succession of intellectual fireworks, which, in default of (and much more surely than) colossal legal achievements, may keep one's memory alive in generations yet to come.

Of course, that trials of all kinds should be reported in the papers is desirable—though the inconsistency which publishes the fullest details of every revolting case, while it excludes reporters from certain Parliamentary debates, is somewhat preposterous; but a line could most easily be drawn between the publication of all necessary points of a case and the reporting in full every ridiculous trifle which amused the idlers who, purely to be amused, frequent every court.

Not that by any means all “scenes in court” are entirely or even in any way amusing: pure horror or the deepest pity sometimes moves alike Bench, Bar, and public. Love and hate, the highest and lowest passions, sheer misery and despair, are always present in a court of law—sometimes decently clothed as conventionality requires, now and then revealed to their uttermost depths. I remember some years ago seeing, in a little county court, a case of the commonest and apparently least interesting nature, which affected almost beyond control even the old and practised Judge.

A working engineer was summoned by a small travelling draper—almost of the class of the old pedlar—for debts contracted by his wife. The man, a decent, middle-aged fellow, tall, bearded, with a manly, intelligent look, was reproved by the Judge for almost his first words—words of blunt description of the traveller's trade of selling luxuries to the improvident wives of poor men. Then briefly, with the stern self-repression of an Englishman, he told his story. There was nothing in the least new about it. He had been married a year. The slightest tremble in his voice as he said “She was a good girl,” told how he had loved her, how happy he had been, how fearfully disappointed. A very little while after the wedding she had grown extravagant, idle, untidy—“I'm out all day, you know,” he said, with an explanatory nod to the Judge, who forgave the familiarity; then, four months ago, he had found out that she was deeply in debt. He reproved her. She sold all his furniture to pay “that fellow there:” this happened twice, and then he found the secret of the vice worse than love of finery that had grown upon her. She (young, no doubt, perhaps pretty and lovable) had taken to drinking. The man groaned as the unutterable misery told in these three words rose up before him; he covered his face with his hands, and rushed from the court to hide the weakness he could no longer control.

There was a curious, painful quiet in the court. We are hidden even from ourselves by the clothing of conventionalities and petty cares that every-day life weaves round us; and here was suddenly bared to us the inmost misery of another man—his very self, helpless in the clutch of the cruel fate he had sought as earth's highest happiness. One blushed and turned away, ashamed to pry into a sorrow so blameless and terrible. No one spoke, till the Judge, in a few merciless sentences, dismissed the petty, unscrupulous cheat, cowering under the lash of an indignation so solemn and deserved—every word drew blood; and even a huckster's vulgar impudence dared not reply.

When the man returned he looked pale and greatly worn, but somehow not ashamed of his uncontrollable grief—a wave of the universal sympathy, a glance, perhaps, at the kind, pitying faces, reassured him as he entered. Even in a court of law men's hearts are warm and open to generous impulses, as to careless laughter and unreasoning anger: it is the humanity of human nature that causes—among its other effects, terrible, pitiful, ridiculous—Scenes in Court.

THE SOCIAL SCIENCE CONGRESS.

Lord Moncreiff, as president of the Jurisprudence department of the Social Science Congress held at Glasgow, opened the section on Thursday week by an address on the state of the law as regards several matters. He pointed out the great importance of codifying the statutes. With regard to the transfer of land, although he approved of recent legislation upon that matter, he still believed that no amount of legislation would ever have the effect of extending the property in land to the less wealthy classes. He advocated the abolition of entails, leaving the power of settlement only remaining, and he objected to the position in which the law affecting charitable bequests stood. In conclusion, he argued in favour of a thorough revision of the received formularies which regulate international law. In other departments the principal topics of discussion were technical education, the relations between capital and labour, international arbitration, industrial schools, and the disposal of sewage.

Lord Napier and Ettrick, presiding over the Education department, yesterday week, gave an elaborate address on education. He spoke in favour of the new system of board schools, and showed that elementary instruction must be rendered general and efficient before higher education for the working classes could be provided. In the section devoted to the consideration of questions affecting Economy and Trade, Sir G. Campbell presided, and an interesting discussion arose on the inquiry, “What legislation should follow upon the report of the Commission on Friendly Societies?” In the Municipal Law section Mr. Forsyth, M.P., read a paper upon the necessity of requiring unanimity in juries. In civil cases he thought unanimity was not required, but that the rule ought to be retained in all criminal cases. In the section dealing with the repression of crime Mr. Serjeant Cox, Captain McCall, and Mr. Smith, the Governor of Edinburgh Prison, discussed the question of how far previous convictions should be taken into account in sentencing criminals. In the evening a large meeting of the operative classes was held in the City-hall—Sir James Watson, the Lord Provost, in the chair. On the platform were assembled the more prominent members of the congress.

The members of the congress employed Saturday in pleasure excursions, the chief one being to Loch Lomond.

The sections met again on Monday morning in the Corporation-buildings, Glasgow. Early in the day Dr. Lyon Playfair, M.P., delivered an address in the Queen's Rooms as president of the Health department. The Earl of Rosebery presided. Dr. Playfair began by drawing attention to the death-rate of the country. He showed that in London the average rate was only 21.4 per 1000; in the principal towns, 26.9; in small towns, 20.2; and in the rural districts, 16.2. Adverting next to the question of preventable deaths, he contended that the number was far in excess of what it ought to be, and that until a system of disease registrations, as well as death registrations, was established, public health could not be administered with full intelligence. The function of the sanitarium was prevention. This function began and ended before man reached his final stage of decay. When the wheel represented by the circulation of the blood was broken a new and great wheel began, revolving in its rotation all organic and inorganic matter, in this wonderful circle. Death and life rapidly appeared in correlation, and vast generations of animals by the process of dissolution produced living generations by a process of evolution. We should strive to take part in this circle without attempting by ignorance or design too many wonderful plans for preserving the world in purity and sanity. Considering the causes which govern life and death so far as disease was preventable by agencies over which man had control, the right hon. gentleman said that the laws of health, like other laws of nature, were relentless in their severity. Intelligent submission to them produced health and longevity, while the slightest infraction of them was mercilessly punished with disease and shortness of days. For his present purpose he could only refer to some of the more important. The health of a nation, physiologically considered, stood closely in relation to that of an individual, whose nutrition and health depended upon the well-adjusted balance of the supply and waste of the particles which compose the body. All that they need aim to secure was purity or cleanliness in the house, the air, and the water, and genuineness in the food and clothes. No epidemic could resist clean houses, clean air, and clean water. The ancients fought against evil smells more vigorously than the moderns, and the purifications required by the religious observances of the Jews were in the main hygienic precautions. Moses established health officers; and, before long, we may be obliged to enact the ancient laws of Moses for isolating patients with infectious diseases. The isolation of patients affected with smallpox, scarlatina, and measles would one day become hygienic law. When the civilisation of the Egyptians, the Jews, and the Greeks and the Romans faded, the world passed through dark ages of mental and physical barbarism; and then they had the wondrous epidemics of the Middle Ages, which cut off one fourth of the population of Europe. The natural purifiers on which we rely in combating the pollution of our cities were a free supply of untainted air, unpolluted water, a porous soil, and a healthy vegetation in the squares of our towns to help to purify the atmosphere, and to pour into them life-giving oxygen. It was the want of these conditions which made both town and country dwellings unhealthy. In modern hygiene nothing was more conclusively established than that vitiated atmospheres were the most fruitful of all sources of disease. In short, “Wash and be clean” is the simple golden rule of Dr. Playfair. Papers read and discussed in other departments related to educational endowments, examinations in Scotch schools, various questions of law, police supervision, the responsibility of insane criminals, workmen's dwellings, waste lands, and other topics.

On Tuesday Sir George Campbell delivered his presidential address in the Section for Economy and Trade. He remarked on the tendency of coolie and Chinese labour to restrain the advance of wages in Western countries, and admitted the right of self-governing colonies to hold their own economical opinions. There were several interesting papers read in the Repression of Crime section, Miss Mary Carpenter describing the industrial schools of India, and Mr. Taylor advocating more stringent discipline for wife-beaters.

The sittings of the congress were brought to a close on Wednesday. In the section devoted to the repression of crime an address was delivered by Mr. G. W. Hastings, who advocated the appointment of a public prosecutor as a step towards the more efficient administration of justice. Mr. Hastings expressed an opinion that the report of the Judicature Commission held out fair hopes that this great improvement in our criminal procedure would soon be carried out. As a further amendment of the law, he thought a prisoner ought to be allowed to give evidence in his own behalf. One of the most interesting discussions of the day was that which took place upon the problems surrounding the employment of the surplus female population, in which Mrs. Crawshaw, Mrs. E. M. King, Mrs. Pattison, Miss Rose Adams, and other ladies took part.

The next congress will be at Brighton.

THE SHAH'S DIARY IN ENGLAND.

A letter in the *Academy* of Saturday last, signed A. A. Schindler, dated Teheran, Aug. 10, gives some interesting extracts from the Shah's diary during his stay in England. It was published, the writer says, a short time ago, and contains 208 quarto pages of bad print. At times the book has the air of being a true diary—jottings, that is, not meant for publication; at others it becomes, however, evident that he wrote the thing simply for the sake of having it published. The style is throughout of the very poorest description; to a Persian the book is, on that account, utterly unreadable. A Persian, indeed, might think the book was written by a foreigner with but a scanty knowledge of the language; and this is partly true, for the Shah hardly knows the Persian language, having up to his eighteenth year spoken nothing but Turkish.

The Shah's descriptions of some of the wonders he saw are very amusing. When there is anything which he failed fully to comprehend, he says, “It was wonderful,” or “We cannot write an explanation.” Trivial occurrences he dilates upon with a quite remarkable eloquence; important events he finishes off with a few words. Regarding beautiful and high-born ladies, emperors, kings, and queens he says but very little; but on negroes, Japanese jugglers, cafés chantants, and kindred subjects he is quite communicative. The book is full of absurdities and blunders, which he might easily have avoided by calling to his assistance any one of his interpreters; it is, however, perhaps better that he did not do so, for he might thus have spoiled for us a highly delightful treat.

After taking farewell of the King of the Belgians, the Shah embarked with “Lorenson Sahib” (Sir Henry Rawlinson) on board the *Vigilant*, Captain McClintock, “known through his several voyages to the North Pole Islands.” He admires the *Vigilant*, more especially the good things to eat in the state cabin; there were “peaches, white grapes, black grapes, small, very sweet melons; the grapes were from hothouses, and very dear; one bunch of them cost two francs.”

He arrives at Dover, where the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Arthur, and others came to meet him. The Duke of Edinburgh is a “very good-looking young man, with small beard and blue eyes;” in parentheses he adds that he is very tall. “Prince Arthur is not so tall, has a thinner face, and is smaller made than his brother.” On the road from Dover to London, noticing the fine fields of Kent, his Majesty says, “It is not necessary to write about England's agriculture; it is known all over the world.” They pass “Shelshurst” (this, like most other European names, in Roman character); a wheel of a carriage catches fire, and “we were nearly all burnt.”

The crowd at Charing-cross was “endless,” and calls forth the following: “London has some very handsome women; on the countenances of both women and men are depicted nobility, greatness, dignity, and strength; it is evident that England is a great nation; the Almighty has to them especially given power and ability, sense, understanding, and education; no wonder they have conquered a country like India, and possess considerable colonies in America and in other parts of the world.” Then he admires the English Army, especially the cavalry, but deplores the small number of the latter.

Next day he went to see her Majesty at Windsor Castle; he sits on a chair, and the Lord Chamberlain having brought the Order of the Jarretiere, it was given to him by her Majesty's “own hands.” He in return “gave the Persian order of the Lion and Sun, with his portrait mounted in diamonds.” He sees Prince Leopold, very young and good-looking, attired in Scotch costume; this he explains as “a costume in which the knees are bare.” “One daughter of the Queen, sixteen years of age, is always in the house and not yet married.” The Shah likes to eat well; whenever the meals are good he never fails to say so; here “we ate a good breakfast, there were some fine fruits.” In the castle grounds he sees soldiers; “although the English Army is small, it is very well clothed, well drilled, and consists of young, strong men,” he remarks. After a description of the castle, he adds—it looks very much like an afterthought—“Her Majesty's age is fifty, but she looks only forty; she has a genial and pleasant countenance.” In the evening he goes to the City to the Guildhall entertainment. He notices the policemen; “There are 8000.”

The next piece of information is somewhat startling, and ought to put the London police-defying street-boys at their ease:—“The people of London think very much of their police; anybody that shows any disrespect to the police must be killed.” The Lord Mayor lives in “Cuid Hall.” Wonderful to relate, the Shah on this occasion sat again on a chair, and we see that in every succeeding chapter he takes care to tell us the same thing—that is, whenever he does happen to sit on a chair. Then the Lord Mayor, the Shah, everybody drank T's (toasts).

He goes to sleep again that night, and next morning goes to “Volvitch.” On the road he sees “working men of London, their faces blackened by coal smoke;” at Woolwich, “English guns, like the ancient ones; they are loaded by way of muzzle, and not, like Krupps, from the breech.” In the evening he is at the opera: “There was a great crowd; Patti, one of the celebrated European singers, had been expressly brought from Paris. She sang very well; she is a very handsome woman; she took a long price to come to London. There was also Albani, a Canadian, of America, who sang very well and performed well.”

On the following day, en route to the Zoological Gardens, he is received with the usual “Hurrahs!” He feels quite pleased, and says, “Really, they cordially like me.” The hippopotamus was “a wonderful thing.”

On the day of the naval review he had to wait a little at the railway station for the Prince of Wales and the Czarévitch. At Portsmouth he embarks on board the *Victoria* Albert, Captain “Prince Linoge,” and sits down to breakfast. Then said his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, “Rise! Let us go on deck to salute the ships. We rose and went on deck.” Two sons of the Prince of Wales were also there. Then the Shah went on board the “Azincourt, commanded by Fips Hurubi;” then visited the “Sultan, Commander Vansittart,” and returned to the *Victoria* Albert. “The boat got under the steam-wheel, the steam-wheel began to move, the wheel very nearly touched our boat; if the wheel had touched our boat, which was not the will of God, we should all have been drowned. Praise be to God the Almighty! the wheel stopped; we got on deck without further danger.”

The Duke of Sutherland's gardens and palace, to which he went after his visit to Liverpool, he describes minutely. “Lord Chose by Ostantene,” the Duke's near neighbour; “Mr. Cok,” who had been captured by the Chinese; “Marquis de Staffert,” son of the Duke of Sutherland, and “Lord Albert Gavr” and “Lord Renauld,” the Duke's brothers, were also there. They all played at bowls, a game that pleased the Shah much, particularly when they played in shirt-sleeves.

In Manchester, he observes, “Most ladies wear black dresses here; for if they were to put on white or coloured dress, it would immediately get black.” Regarding his planting a tree at the Duke of Devonshire's place at “Chezike,” he says:—“This planting a tree is, in Europe, one way of showing respect to a great person.”

In the Albert Hall he admires the entrance-hall, the

macaroni machine, and the exhibition of pictures painted by officers and men in the Navy. Regarding the latter, he says, "Nowhere else have I seen such fine paintings." The great concert, the many performers, and the great organ astonished him much.—"Such a crowd nobody has as yet seen from the beginning of the world till now; there were 12,000 persons present, from no single one came a sound, all listened and looked on; it lasted more than an hour; when it was finished we went home and slept."

He goes again to the Albert Hall and buys some paintings, "ten or fifteen" of them. He relates the donkey anecdote as follows:—"I saw a picture of a donkey, asked, 'What is the price?' The director of the exhibition, who was a clever, white-bearded man, read the price and said—'One hundred pounds sterling; this sum is nearly 250 toman Persian money. I said—'The price of living donkey is at the most only five pounds, why is a painted donkey so dear?' The director said—'Because it costs nothing to keep, it eats neither barley nor straw.' I said—'If its keep costs nothing it also does not carry anything, and cannot be used for riding.' We laughed very much."

His Majesty has tried to enlighten his countrymen on the subject of English party politics:—He went to see Lord Russell, "who, though so old, has still a strong intellect, and belongs to the High (Whig) party." For the enlightenment of his Persian readers he goes on:—"It is necessary that it should be explained what Whig is. All the Ministers of the English Government are divided in two parts. The party which is now in office is that of the Whigs; at their head are Lord Gladstone as Prime Minister, and Lord Granville as Minister for Foreign Affairs, and other Ministers. The other party, which thinks contrary to the former, is called Tory; at its head are Disraeli and Lord Derby and others. Whenever the former party gets removed from office all the Ministers and others are replaced by others of the second party."

At Madame Tussaud's his astonishment knew no bounds. He says:—"It is hardly possible to distinguish which are living figures and which wax. I tried to distinguish between real figures and those of wax, but could not succeed till the women got up, walked, and laughed, and then I knew that they were living human beings."

He goes once more to the Crystal Palace, specially admires the Jamaica ladies, who "were very handsome and had fine hair," and the figures of animals, which "are made so well that if a person wishes to look at them ten days would not be sufficient time." Two balloons are sent off, his portrait is taken, and he leaves the palace gratified.

On the last day of his stay in England he visits St. Thomas's Hospital; Lord Argyll speaks of a Mr. Viteston (Wheatstone) and his wonderful printing telegraph; he goes to "Drurelam" Theatre in the evening. Here he sees "Nelson, a young Swedish woman, very talkative and artful, sharp; she earns much money in St. Petersburg and America, and is married to a Frenchman named Gousseau."

With this chapter he finishes all he has to say on England; after apologising for having written so little—"but really during a stay of only eighteen days nothing more could be written"—he says, "with the English everything is in order and well arranged;" he thinks that our ways of doing business and of finding something to do leave nothing to be desired. His final notice of England and the English people is that "the English people were really very annoyed and sorry on account of my leaving them," even while cheering him they looked "sorrowful."

Mr. Schinckler does not think that the number of copies sold in Persia exceeds 300 or 400; its price in Teheran is twelve francs, which is to a Persian is a high price for a book, now that the works of the authors they like are sold for five or six francs.

MUSICAL PUBLICATIONS.

Among recent publications by Messrs. Chappell and Co. are several songs that will doubtless please many drawing-room singers and auditors. Miss Elizabeth Philp's "The Children's Slumber" is a melody of a smooth and tranquil character, lightly accompanied; and the song altogether is one that may be rendered very expressive by a singer of average acquirements. It will suit a mezzo-soprano or contralto voice of moderate compass. Mr. F. H. Cowen's song, "The reason why," and his serenade, "Wake in all thy beauty" (both from Mr. Burnard's "Too many for one") may be commended for melodic flow and gracefulness of style; and neither of them will tax the compass or the executive power of the singer. "Dreaming again," by Cotford Dick, is simple and pretty in its vocal melody; the consecutive octaves between the voice part and the bass, in the sixth and seventh bars (and afterwards), might easily have been avoided by changing the bass to G, and thus escaping a grammatical error. Mr. E. Reyloff's song, "The Toilers of the Sea," is a good piece of declamatory writing, of a vigorous character. It will suit almost any calibre of voice—best of all, perhaps, a baritone or "tenor robusto."

"Toi que j'aime," romance, and "La Clochette," mazurka caprice, both by Eugene Fleury (also published by Messrs. Chappell and Co.), are two pianoforte pieces, the first in the style of a graceful nocturno, with elaborate ornamental passages, sprinkled around the pervading cantilena, the second an effective embodiment of the characteristic Polish dance rhythm. Mr. Cotford Dick's "Arabesque," "Scherzo," and "Polonaise" (Messrs. Chappell and Co.) are pleasing pianoforte pieces, each having its distinct individuality of character.

Messrs. Lamborn Cock and Co. have recently published a neat and cheap edition (in octavo form) of Weber's "Jubel Cantate," under the title of "The Praise of Jehovah," with English words adapted by Mr. F. W. Rosier, as performed at the Gloucester Festival last month. Of the beauties and characteristics of the work we spoke at some length in our notices of its recent performance. The same publishers have lately brought out two graceful vocal pieces by Mr. Charles Salaman—"How lonely," a ballad for mezzo-soprano or baritone; and "Why didst thou ever," recitative and air for soprano or tenor. The first is characterised by a plaintive simplicity, the other being of a somewhat more elaborate character. Grace of melody and a musicianly accompaniment are features in both.

Messrs. Duncan Davison and Co. have just published new editions of Carl Krebs's study in B flat on groups of six notes, and Herr Leschetizky's impromptu "Les Allouettes," each of which has been made widely known by an exceptionally fine pianist—the first by Mdlle. Marie Krebs (daughter and pupil of the composer), the second by Madame Essipoff (wife and also pupil of the composer). From the same publishers we have a charming sacred trio, "Upward, where the stars are burning," by Mr. Henry Smart, who has here produced a piece of vocal harmony, for soprano, mezzo-soprano, and contralto, that will be found highly effective in performance, the combination of voices being one of especial beauty. Messrs. Duncan Davison and Co. have also brought out some settings of Shelley's words by Mr. J. W. Davison, who has long been known to possess

the rare union of practical musical knowledge with critical powers and literary acquirements. His songs, "Swifter far than summer's flight" and "Rough wind that moanest," have frequently been sung with success by eminent vocalists. Quite worthy of association with them is his setting of Beatrice's song (from "The Cenci"), "False friend, wilt thou smile or weep?" Mr. Ignace Gibsons's arrangement for the pianoforte of the celebrated polonaise from Glinka's "Life for the Czar" (by the same publishers) is a very effective transcription of one of the most striking pieces in the Russian opera to which it belongs.

LAW AND POLICE.

The Lord Chancellor has appointed Mr. W. H. Cooke, Q.C., of the Oxford circuit, to the Judgeship of the Oxford County Court, rendered vacant by the resignation of Judge Parry; and Mr. Horatio Lloyd, the Recorder of Chester, to fill the county court judgeship vacant by the retirement of Mr. Vaughan Williams.

At a meeting of the Court of Aldermen, on Tuesday, it was stated that there are now 365 prisoners in the City gaols, and a petition from the Rev. Mr. Jones, Ordinary of Newgate, for an increase of salary, was referred to the gaol committee.

Cases of robbery of various kinds were tried at the October Middlesex Sessions on Monday. In one the prosecutor failed to appear, and a verdict of "Not guilty" was returned. Another trial was for having attempted to obtain money under pretence of trying to recover a stolen dog, and the prisoner was sentenced to twelve months' hard labour.—A young man of good education, named Alexander Roxbury, was, on Tuesday, convicted and sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment for obtaining sums of money through fraudulently representing himself to be the agent of several well-known insurance companies. Annie Martin, a governess, was found guilty of having stolen a pair of child's boots from a shop, and sentenced to three months' hard labour.—Several more cases of robbery were tried on Wednesday, and sentences of from six months' hard labour to eight years' penal servitude, with subsequent police supervision, were passed.

Two policemen were brought before metropolitan magistrates, last Saturday, on charges of drunkenness. In one case Hobbs, the constable, struck the sergeant who found him, at night, drunk near Twickenham Railway station, and Mr. Flowers sent him to prison for two months, without the option of a fine. In the other, Singleton, a man who was drunk in the Lambeth district, was fined £7, with the alternative of a month's imprisonment. Both men had served in the Army.

Several persons have been brought before the Marylebone magistrates for acts of robbery at the scene of the explosion in Regent's Park. In two cases the prisoners were discharged for want of evidence, and in a third case a remand was granted.

At Southwark, Kate Leary, milkdealer, of 6, Westminster Bridge-road, was summoned, last week, for selling half milk and half water as pure milk, and fined £5, and 12s. 6d. costs. Georgs Bickens, a milkdealer, carrying on business at No. 5, John-street West, Blackfriars-road, was charged with a similar offence. In this case the milk contained 20 per cent of water. The magistrate fined him 40s., and 12s. 6d. costs.

It was lately stated that a house in Lambeth, occupied by John Royle, a hairdresser, had been found on fire in several places; and yesterday week Royle was brought up at Southwark, on remand, charged with arson and attempted murder. Evidence was given to the effect that six or seven fires from chopped wood, oiled rags, &c., were burning in the house; that on old man, a cripple, was lying half-suffocated in a bed, with an open gaspipe under it, and that the prisoner had in his possession two policies of insurance on the life of the old man, his uncle. The prisoner was committed for trial on both charges.

Captain Fleetwood, late of the 8th Foot, was charged at Clerkenwell, on Tuesday, with an assault on Mr. A. C. Wylie, by throwing a glass of beer in his face during an altercation at luncheon in a boarding-house where the parties resided. A fine of 2s. 6d. and costs was imposed.

Mr. Robert Ayres, clerk of works to the London School Board, was charged at the same court, yesterday week, with an assault on Mr. Wigmore, a contractor, who is executing a commission for the board. He was fined 40s. and costs.

Several Asiatic seamen having died on board the ship Unity, in consequence, as was alleged, of ill-usage, the captain and first mate of that vessel were charged at the Thames Police Court, on Tuesday, with having been concerned in their deaths. It was stated in evidence that the captain had several times attacked the deceased with a belaying-pin, and that the mate had also hit them, but not with any weapon. The prisoners were remanded for a week.

Yesterday week a moneytaker at the West India Dock Station of the Great Eastern Railway was convicted at the same court of an assault upon a passenger, and was fined £3.

A cabman named Fryer has had his license withdrawn by Mr. Lushington, at Lambeth, in addition to being fined 40s., with the alternative of a month's hard labour, for overcharging a police officer. He had been fined at the same court.

George Bennett, a Kentish Town butcher, has had to enter into his own recognizances for future good behaviour towards professional brethren who may chance to get married. The necessity for this arrangement arose out of his disorderly performance on the marrow bones and cleavers at the celebration of a rival butcher's marriage.

Mr. R. M. Gilbert, master of the Collegiate School at Plumstead, again appeared at the Woolwich Police Court, last Saturday, in answer to a summons, on the charge of having used excessive severity towards one of his pupils. The evidence showed that the boy had headed a combination to resist punishment, and the magistrate dismissed the summons, remarking that he did not think the caning excessive, but that it would have been better to expel the rebellious lad from the school.

Mrs. Mary Catherine Trelawney, aged about forty-eight, who stated that she was the widow of an officer who was killed in India, has been sentenced to one month's imprisonment for fortune-telling at Slough.

Mr. Saunders, the manager of Stuckey's Bank, at Williton, near Bristol, was on Monday committed for trial on a charge of having defrauded his employers of £1000.

A series of riots amongst English and Scotch fishermen have taken place at Lowestoft during the week. On Tuesday night a policeman was thrown down in the bar of an inn, the doors were locked, and the officer was kicked on the face and ribs. Cries of "Kill him!" caused the doors to be burst open by the populace. The magistrates have sent some of the ring-leaders of the disturbances to prison for two months.

A railway clerk, named Stoner, is in custody at Leeds on a charge of having attempted to poison the family with whom he lodged, by introducing quicksilver into their tea.

Mr. R. J. Harp, manager of the Ubberey Hall Colliery, near Hanley, where four lives were lost on Aug. 24 by an explosion of gas, was on Tuesday charged before the magistrates with neglecting to ventilate the mine, so as to render it safe for working. Mr. Gilroy, assistant Government inspector, said there had been the grossest carelessness on the part of the manager, who had shown worse judgment in the ventilation of the pit than he had ever before known. Mr. Harp was ordered to pay a fine of £10 and costs.

Official contradiction is given to the statement that William Roupell was about to leave prison with a ticket of leave.

Several cases of brutal violence were before country magistrates yesterday week. At Derby a man was remanded on the charge of having assaulted a master builder by knocking him down, kicking him repeatedly, and jumping on him. At Brighton a labourer was sentenced to two months' hard labour, in default, for having struck and kicked his wife till she was covered with bruises. A fatal case of violence was the subject of an inquest at King's Lynn, three labourers having so severely injured a man that he died some days afterwards.—Sentence of six months' hard labour was passed by the Brentford magistrates, on Monday, upon a man who, because his wife refused to get him a plate, knocked her down, struck her repeatedly, and kicked her several times in the ribs.—At Westport, in the county of Mayo, a man named Noone quarrelled with another man, whom he dealt a desperate blow with an iron weapon, killing him almost instantly.

ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

An inquiry was held on Monday, at the London Hospital, respecting the death of James Cresswell Hammerton, aged forty. From the evidence it appeared that, on the 10th of last month, a dog owned by the deceased bit one of his children. He caught the animal and threw it into the street; but it returned, flew at him, and bit him in the right hand. The wounds were cauterised, but on Wednesday week he was taken ill and conveyed to the hospital, where he died on the following day. Medical evidence showed that death had resulted from hydrophobia, and a verdict to that effect was returned. The child who was bitten has recovered.

Five workmen were much injured, yesterday week, by the fall of the wing of a building which is being erected by the London School Board in the New-cut, Lambeth.—On the same day the roof of the Christian Brothers' School, in Mountjoy-street, Dublin, fell in, at a time when, however, few scholars were upon the benches. Some of these were much injured.

A little girl, living in service at Hillingdon, near Uxbridge, was attacked, last Saturday, by some bloodhounds belonging to her master, while she was cooking some food for them. Some neighbours, who heard her cries, rescued her from the animals; but she was sadly mangled.

A well-dressed man, about thirty-five years of age, on Tuesday, walked to the end of the pier at Southend and shot himself with a revolver just below the heart. He then jumped into the river, but was rescued by means of the drags. He is not expected to recover.

Miss Julia Emily Baker, aged nineteen, daughter of a wholesale draper at Colchester, was knocked down by an engine at the George-lane station, and, the train passing over her, she was greatly mutilated. At the Coroner's inquest, on Tuesday, a verdict of "Accidental death" was returned.

Two brothers, named Peters, residing at Stirling, were out shooting, last Saturday afternoon, in the neighbourhood of that town. The gun accidentally went off, and the charge entered the body of the younger. After suffering great agony, he died in about an hour after the occurrence.

A large jute-spinning factory at Dundee, belonging to Messrs. Kinnear, Fithie, and Co., was consumed by fire on Sunday. Many people will be thrown out of employment.

Mrs. D. Robertson, the wife of a labourer in Paisley, had to leave her four children alone on Monday morning in bed, the eldest aged five years and the youngest four months. Returning in twenty minutes afterwards she found the house filled with smoke. An alarm was raised, and the children were brought out from the room, but all dead.

At Plymouth, yesterday week, the Coroner's inquest was resumed on the bodies of William Thomas and Amelia Matilda Thomas, the latter of whom was murdered by her husband, who afterwards cut his own throat. They had lived unhappily for some time past, in consequence of the husband's jealousy; for which their appears to have been no cause, and recently they had agreed to separate. While in the solicitor's office waiting to see the draught deed of separation, Thomas cut his wife's throat and then his own, death being in both cases almost instantaneous. The jury returned a verdict in the case of the wife that she was murdered by her husband, and in the case of the latter that he committed suicide while in a state of insanity.

While a passenger-train was passing along the line on a branch of the Somerset and Dorset Railway, near Shepton Mallett, on Monday, the engine ran off the rails and fell over a bridge into a stream, dragging the tender and a guard's van with it, but, fortunately, leaving the carriages behind. The engine-driver was killed, the fireman was severely injured, two other railway officials were badly bruised, and some of the passengers were slightly hurt.

During a heavy storm of wind and rain, last Saturday night, John Mott, twenty-one years of age, David Fleming, twenty-two years, and Mary Flannigan, forty-five years, were walking from Slamannan to Airdrie, on the North British Railway, when they were run over and killed by a fast passenger-train. No shock was felt in the passenger-train.

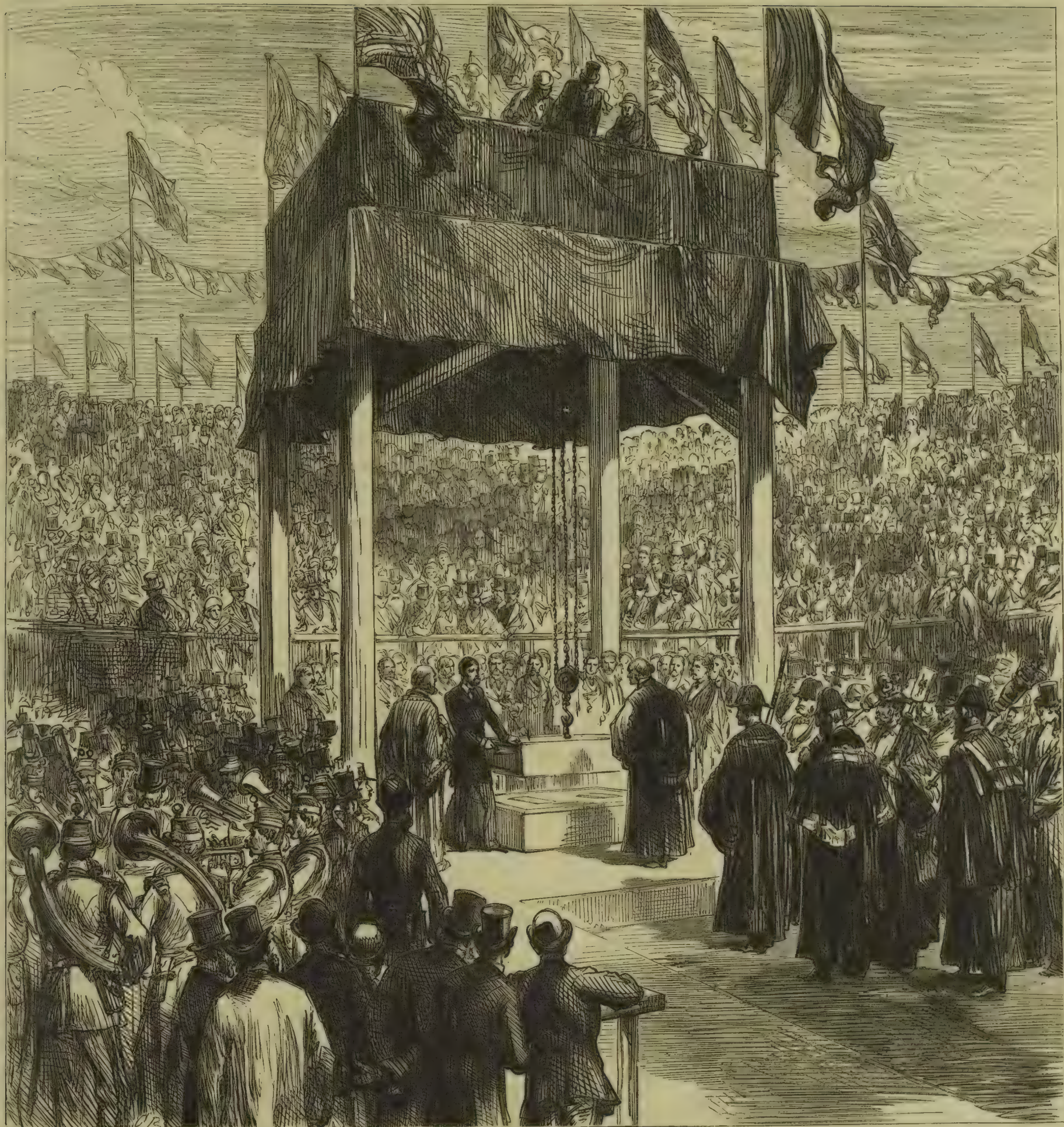
During a severe storm at Nice on Thursday week, about midnight, fourteen fishermen were struck by lightning. Two of the men were killed, and the others injured.

The schooner Queen of the Isles, which arrived at Plymouth on Monday, landed the master and crew, seven in all, of the Brixham schooner Pickwick, 197 tons, which foundered in the Gulf Stream 400 miles from land, on the 10th of last month. The vessel was on a voyage from Richmond, Virginia, to Santos in the Brazils, and on Sept. 8 fell in with a terrific hurricane. On the 10th she had to be abandoned, as she had lost mainmast and foremast; her rudder was unshipped, and planks started fore and aft. The crew were rescued by the barque Electra, and subsequently transferred from her to the Queen of the Isles.

The New York journals bring particulars of the shocking calamity at Fall River, Massachusetts. A fire broke out in the fourth floor of a woollen mill, and the flames, fed by oiled cottons and other combustibles, spread with such rapidity that the escape of sixty operatives on the sixth floor was cut off. Many of these operatives were women, and at last they were forced to jump from the windows to the ground, 70 ft. below. Some fell upon straw and mattresses that had been hastily collected, and were not severely injured; others, however, were killed by the fall or were fatally wounded. Some who dared not leap were suffocated before the eyes of their relatives. In all, twenty persons were killed or have since died of their injuries.



PONTOON OVER VAAL RIVER, KLIPDRIFT, SOUTH AFRICAN DIAMOND FIELDS, ON THE WAY TO THE GOLD FIELDS.



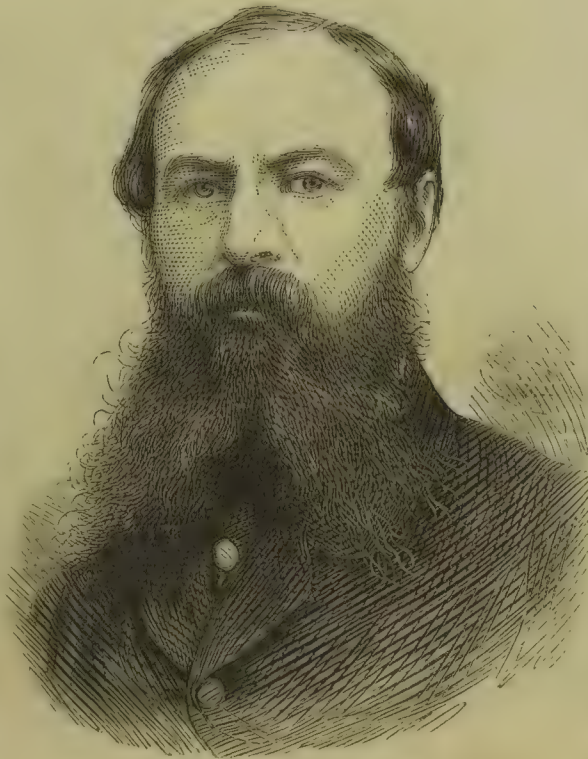
THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH LAYING THE FOUNDATION-STONE OF THE WALKER ART GALLERY, LIVERPOOL

THE LATE LOUIS HUARD.

His well-known and respected artist died on the 19th ult., in the sixty-first year of his age. He was born in the south of France, but, when a boy, went to Belgium, and made his first studies under Van Brée, then director of the Academy at Antwerp. Huard soon became remarked for his pictures, and obtained a very high reputation. More than twenty years ago he came to London, at the instance of the conductors of this Journal, and continued to the last day of his life his services to the *Illustrated London News*. The very last drawings he made were for this Paper. We may add that Louis Huard was a man of most amiable character, and he will be regretted by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN DIAMOND-FIELDS.

Diamond-fields, and gold-fields also, tempt the adventurous and laborious digger in that interior part of South Africa, north of the Cape Colony and west of Natal, which is traversed by the Vaal, a tributary of the Orange River. The diamond-fields lie mostly on the left bank of the Vaal, from Potchiestrom down to Klipdrift, which last-mentioned place has been more than once described. But the gold-diggings are 300 or 400 miles north of this, in the territory of the Transvaal Republic; and it is a considerable journey which he undertakes who would exchange the quest of precious stones for that of the precious metal. The more convenient route is from Natal, or from Delagoa Bay, passing through the Dutch frontier towns and villages. In the way from Klipdrift the first stage crosses the Vaal by a pontoon floating bridge, which is a kind of raft moving between two parallel lines of rope, stretched on poles from one bank of the river to the other. It is quite large enough to convey any loaded waggon and horses, with a small party of men. This bridge was constructed two or three years ago. Our illustration is from a photograph, for which we are indebted to Mr. Deverall.



THE LATE LOUIS HUARD.

LIFE-BOAT SERVICES.

A meeting of the Royal National Life-Boat Institution was held, on Thursday week, at its house, John-street, Adelphi. Mr. Lewis, the secretary, having read the minutes of the previous meeting, various money rewards were given to the crews of life-boats of the institution for recent services rendered in the boats. The Holyhead life-boat had brought safely ashore the crews, numbering six men, of the schooners Monkton and Mary Jane, the vessels being in dangerous positions near the breakwater during a strong gale from the south-south-west. The heavy seas broke continually over the boat while she was performing this service. The Ramsey, Bacton, Ramsgate, and Tenby life-boats had respectively assisted to save the smack Venus, of Douglas, and her crew of four men; the brig Marianna, of Bordeaux, and eight persons; and the French lugger Marie and three men. Rewards were also granted to the crews of shore boats for saving life from wrecks on our coasts, and payments amounting to £920 were ordered to be made on various life-boat establishments. Amongst the contributions recently forwarded to the institution were 30 dols. from Miss Warwick, of Scarborough, West Chester County, United States, the greater part of which had been collected by a small class of boys in an American Sunday school. The late Mrs. Sills Gibbons, of Bath, had left the institution a legacy of £500, duty free. New life-boats had been sent by the society during the past month to Lydd (Dungeness) and to Longhope, in the Orkney Islands. It was reported that the St Petersburg Life-Boat Society, of which her Royal Highness the Czar's daughter is patron, had recently sent, through the Earl of Derby, to Mr. Lewis, the secretary of the English life-boat institution, a gratifying present, consisting of a silver figure mounted on a large piece of lapis lazuli. Reports were read from the inspector and the assistant inspectors on their recent visits to the coast.

The Portrush life-boat of the institution on Saturday last saved three men and a boy of the coal-laden schooner Camden, of Aberystwith, which was in distress in Skerries Roads.

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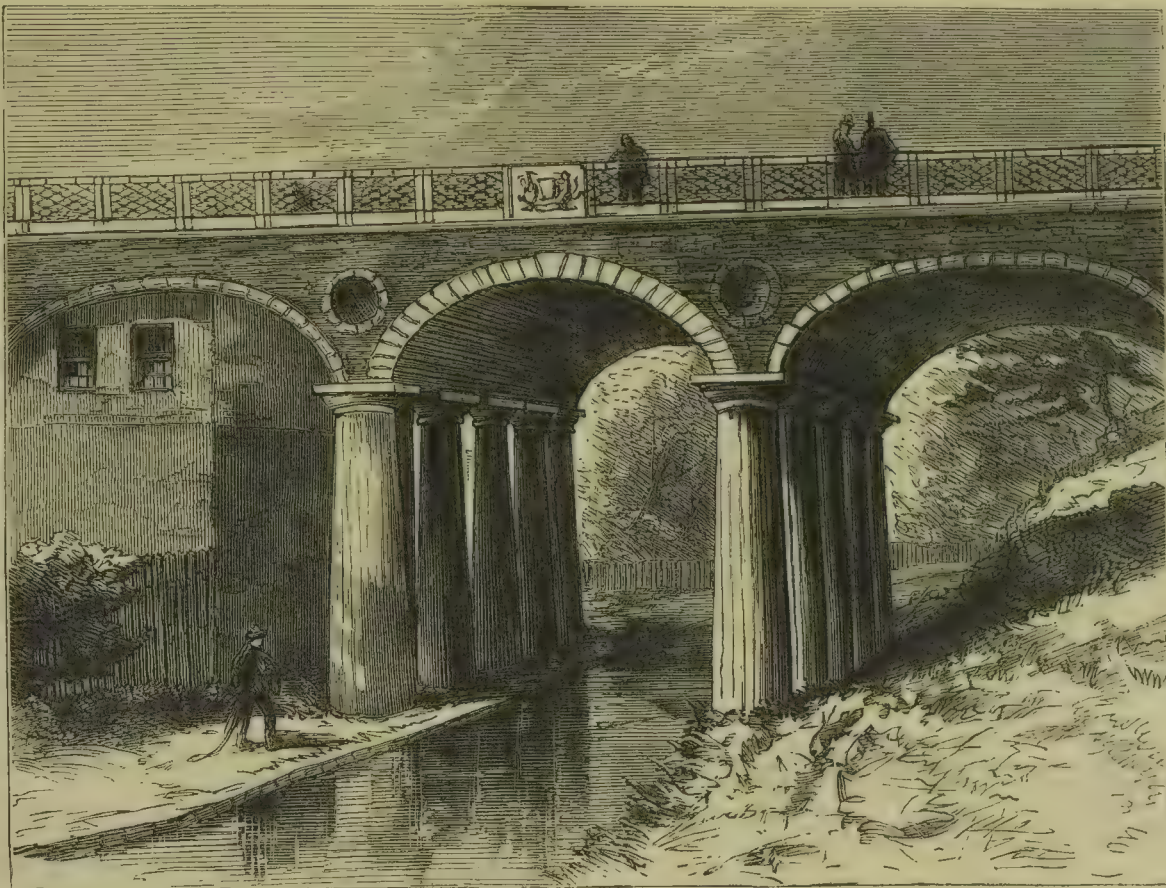
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DESTRUCTIVE EXPLOSION.

An extraordinary accident, which happened yesterday week at five o'clock in the morning, cost the loss of several lives, much damage to houses and furniture, and a vast alarm to the north-western suburbs of London. This was the blowing up of a barge laden partly with petroleum and gunpowder for blasting, which was one of a train drawn by a steam-tug along the Regent's Canal, from Camden Town to St. John's-wood, on the north side of Regent's Park. The Regent's Canal, which is seven miles long, has its chief City dépôt at the Eagle Wharf, City-road, in Finsbury, and is thence continued through Pentonville and St. Pancras to Kentish Town, from which it proceeds by Regent's Park and St. John's-wood to join the Paddington Canal. This passes away from town by Kensal-green, and traverses West Middlesex, but with a circuitous course, to the Grand Junction Canal near Southall. The Grand Junction, opening into the Thames at Brentford, extends to Braunston, near Rugby, with a length



BRIDGE OVER THE REGENT'S CANAL, DESTROYED BY THE EXPLOSION.

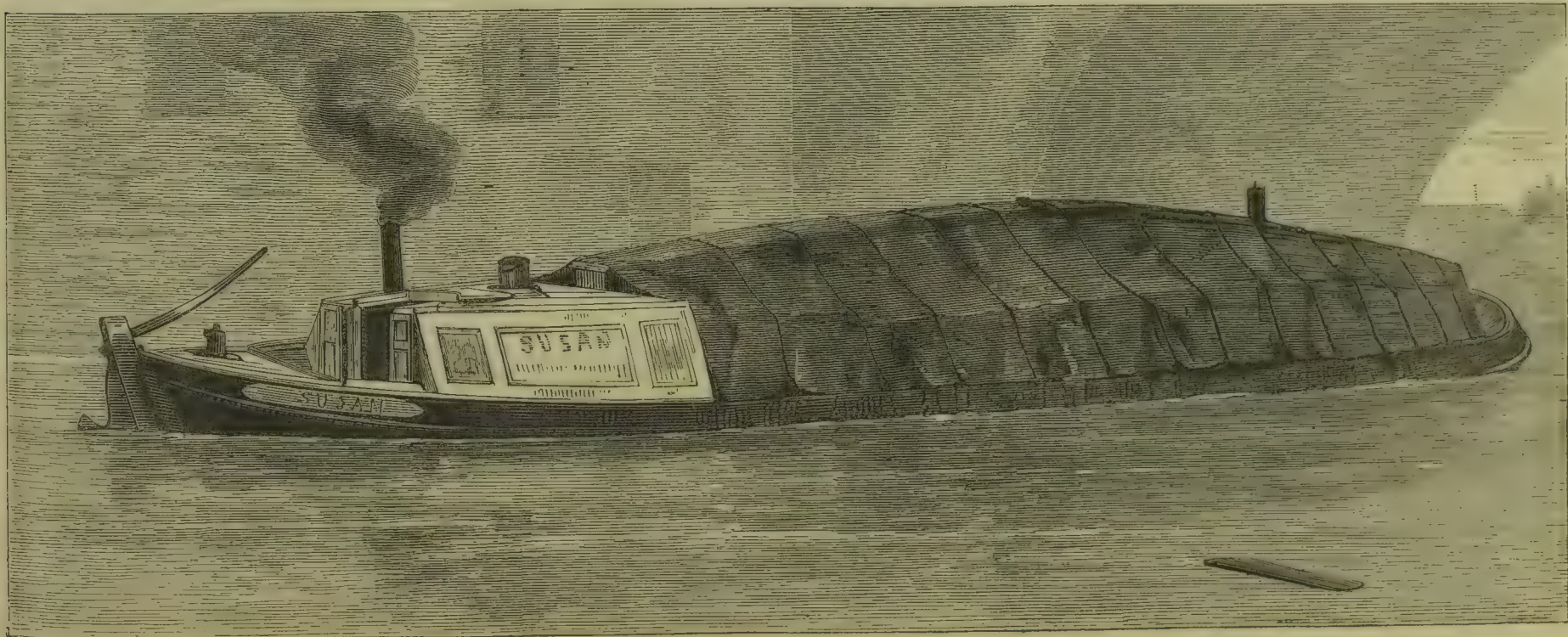
of a hundred miles. It there joins other canals, affording communication with Birmingham and the midland and north-western counties of England. That part of the Regent's Canal which lies between the City and Camden Town is to a great extent concealed from view, as much of it passes underground through a tunnel, and other portions are screened by tall factories or warehouses. But it becomes more open in its westward course; and the section that passes along the northern border of Regent's Park, by the Zoological Society's Gardens, and between the gardens of North and South Bank at St. John's-wood, is a pretty piece of waterside scenery, adorned with trees and grassy banks. It is crossed by several bridges of an ornamental character, belonging to the Park and the gardens, and used by foot-passengers. One such bridge, called Macclesfield Bridge, was situated at the North Gate of the Park, near the mansion of the late Mr. Holford, now the Baptist Ministers' College. It stood close to Albert-road, opposite the opening of Avenue-road, which leads on the west side of



THE NORTH GATE PARK LODGE AFTER THE EXPLOSION.



A. BEDROOM IN A HOUSE OPPOSITE.



A CANAL BARGE FOR CARRYING POWDER AND PETROLEUM.

Primrose-hill to the Finchley-road. There are no houses on the Park side of Albert-road; but several terraces and detached villas are on the north side. It was precisely here, under this bridge, that the explosion took place.

The train of six light barges, of which the first was a steamer, left the wharf in the City-road about three o'clock that morning. Next after the steamer, the Ready, was the fly-boat Jane, whose steerer or captain was named Boswell. Next to her was the Dee, the steerer Edwards; and next came the unfortunate Tilbury, whose steerer was Charles Baxton, of Loughborough, in Leicestershire. The Tilbury was followed by the Limehouse, steerer Edward Hall, and by the Hawksbury, steerer Blewer. The Jane "had a little gunpowder on board." The Tilbury's lading is thus described by the official report:—"The cargo consisted chiefly of sugar and other miscellaneous articles, such as nuts, straw-boards, coffee, and some two or three barrels of petroleum, and about five tons of gunpowder." It is stated to be a common practice to send gunpowder and petroleum in the same barge. Most of the gunpowder was in barrels, but there was one box which was probably filled either with powder in canister or in flasks. The powder was consigned by Messrs. Pigou and Wilkes to Chesterfield for Codnor Park, near Nottingham, and was sent for blasting purposes. It had been manufactured at the Waltham Abbey Mills, Essex. The barges were those of the Grand Junction Canal Company, which works the suburban lines by a lease or traffic arrangement.

Three or four minutes before five o'clock, this train of barges was passing under the bridge at North Gate, Regent's Park. They were connected in pairs; the steamer and the Jane were the first pair; the Dee and the Tilbury were the second; the Limehouse and the Hawksbury were the last pair. On board the ill-fated Tilbury were the steersman, Charles Baxton, who was about thirty-five years of age; William Taylor, a labourer, of twenty-five; another man and a boy. The Tilbury was directly under the bridge when, by some means yet unexplained, the powder caught fire and the whole was blown up. The men on board this barge were killed, and the barge was shattered to pieces, while one of the other barges was sunk. A column of thick smoke and a great blaze of fire followed the explosion. The bridge was entirely destroyed; several of the neighbouring houses were half-ruined, their roofs and walls being greatly injured; and in hundreds of other houses, a mile east or west of the place, the windows were broken, and many fragile articles of furniture. St. John's-wood and Camden Town were thrown into great consternation. It must, however, be confessed that the effects of such an explosion might have been much worse, if it had taken place in a tunnel amidst the crowded buildings of Finsbury or Pentonville; or at any part where, as in Kentish Town, the surface of the water is near the level of the adjoining streets. The fragments of the barge and cargo would, in the latter case, have been hurled right and left, a hundred yards or more, with terrible force and effect; instead of which they were mostly confined to the deep cutting of the canal. This served, indeed, as a conduit for the explosive gases of the gunpowder and petroleum, and for the violent currents of air, which took their direction due east and west. The consequence was that, in houses situated a little to the north or to the south of the line, very little damage was done, while those at a far greater distance east and west felt the blow more severely. The noise and shock were perceived in every quarter of London, and in many instances ten or twelve miles away, both on the north and the south side of the Thames; just as, nine years ago, when the powder-magazine of Messrs. Hall's factory at Erith blew up, on Oct. 1, 1864, it was mistaken for an earthquake by people in London. The sensation was that of a sudden shock and lift, and then a perpendicular fall, quite unlike the vibration caused by a passing railway-train in a cutting near one's house. The sound, which followed one or two seconds later, was a single sharp bang, like that of a huge bombshell, with a rolling clatter of echoes. Many persons dwelling close to the London and North-Western Railway, from Euston-square to Chalk Farm and Kilburn, imagined for a moment either that a locomotive engine had blown up, or that two engines had run headlong against each other, as in the Thorpe collision. But this sort of disturbance was nothing to the experiences of some families inhabiting the houses in or near Albert-road, about the corner of Avenue-road, and the streets behind, in Portland Town, St. John's-wood. Not a few were fairly tossed out of their beds by the force of the shock, which really amounted to an earthquake in that part. Women and children rushed out of the houses, screaming for help, some in their night-dresses, others wrapped in blankets, and were not easily pacified by those of cooler mind whom they met. People soon hastened up from every quarter of town. The police, the Fire Brigade, and a detachment of Horse Guards (Blue) from Albany Barracks, presently arrived and kept order, while the task of saving what remained and searching for the lost was actively begun.

The bridge was a substantially-built composite structure, supported upon two strong Ionic pillars of iron. It had a roadway about 25 ft. in width, and pathways for pedestrians. The Rev. C. Kett, of King's College, has furnished us with a sketch of the bridge. A watchman who had been upon the bridge all night had fortunately left it to call a person with whom he had made that arrangement. Close by stood a cottage, the new North Lodge of the Park, in which the aged gate-keeper, Mr. Edwards, a man aged seventy-five, lived with his family. This house was completely ruined. One son jumped out of window; another heard nothing of the concussion, but awoke to find one wall of his room entirely gone. The six people in the house were little hurt; but the ruins, as shown in our Illustration, are an ugly sight. The chimneys and part of the walls threatened to fall immediately, till the firemen pulled them down. Traces of damage were visible from the Swiss Cottage, St. John's-wood, to the Edgware-road. Scarcely a house in Sussex-place, Portland-terrace, Titchfield-terrace, Bentinck-terrace, Oakfield-terrace, Avenue-road, Lancaster-terrace, St. James's-terrace, John-street, and Townsend-road seemed to have escaped without injury. In the streets behind Park-road, inhabited by small tradesmen, the contents of shops were lying on the pavement, the insides being perfectly gutted. In Henry-street, Charles-street, Frederick-street, Acacia-road, and about the end of Avenue-road, the houses had scarcely a pane of glass complete in any window. A portion of stone was hurled from the canal into a garden in Acacia-road, a distance of five hundred yards, where it imbedded itself in the ground. Lower down, towards the park, the destruction was still greater. The canal was obstructed by a heap of rubbish 20 ft. high, amidst which were to be seen the columns which supported the arches of the bridge, and other pieces of ironwork. The bricks appear to have been separated one from the other in most cases, so that the brickwork did not lie in compact masses. The arch over the towing-path had fallen in. The girders supporting the midway were torn away and hurled high up on the slopes at the sides. The fluted pillars—shells of iron filled in with brick—which had supported the structure on each side, were cast down, and lay in the midst of heaps of earth, with a mass of puddle, broken stones, pieces of planking, and metal pipes formed a passage to the other side. A main of gas and one of water here crossing the canal were broken. The gas was on

fire, and the water ran to waste; a drain or sewer was also burst open. The bed of the canal was completely choked up with rubbish. A barge lay at the side nearest town; a couple of barges and the wreck of a fourth were visible at the other side. The trees on the canal banks were torn and scorched by the fire. Such was the scene of havoc during several hours of the forenoon. Our Illustrations, from sketches taken as early as possible, will give some notion of it.

The sad work of dragging the bottom of the canal to find the dead bodies was watched by a multitude of spectators. The first two, those of William Taylor and the boy, were found at an early hour, beside the sunk barge Limehouse; that of the boy was lying on the canal bank. The body of Charles Baxton, steerer of the Tilbury, was found, near four o'clock in the afternoon, under one of the other barges. These dead were removed to Marylebone Workhouse.

The managers and officers of the Canal Company, Sir R. Brownrigg and Mr. Rogers, directors, Mr. Mercer, secretary, Mr. Hughes, traffic manager, Mr. Edwin Romer, and Messrs. Edwin and Hubert Thomas, engineers, aided by Mr. B. Cale, mining engineer, ordered and superintended the work to be done. On each side of the demolished bridge stakes were driven in the bed of the canal, and the interstices were made tight with cinders. Two pumping-boats were brought up, and by midnight on Saturday the water was all pumped out of the section of the canal. Then an accident happened to one of the dams and the water all came in again, so that the pumping had to be repeated. An accident to one of the pumps had delayed the work before. The heavy iron columns were moved by tall stands, called sheer-legs and crabs, for pulleys and windlasses. The difficulty of the task was in getting steam-crane to work in that deep and slimy cutting, where pillars had to be lifted that weighed several tons and were also full of bricks. The gang of a hundred labourers worked with relays by night and by day, and continued this work during the whole of Sunday. The Limehouse was entire, with little alteration of shape, but quite useless. A little piece of the Tilbury was left in the canal, and was broken up. The canal was passable again for barges on Tuesday afternoon.

The animals in that part of the Zoological Gardens which is nearest the canal, and in which is also the house of Mr. Bartlett, the superintendent, were very much terrified. The elands and antelopes, the giraffes, the elephants, and a rhinoceros, showed great excitement. Some glass was broken, and the frames of the wirework in one of the aviaries, so that a dozen of the little birds escaped.

An inquest on the bodies of the dead was opened by Dr. Hardwicke, the Coroner, at noon on Saturday, but was adjourned to Wednesday. It was attended by barristers and solicitors for the parties concerned. Major Majendie, of the War Office, inspector of gunpowder-works, was present.

A meeting was held on Monday evening at the Eyre Arms, St. John's-wood, and a committee was formed to collect subscriptions for the relief of the poorer class of householders who suffer by this disaster. Mr. Forsyth, M.P. for Marylebone, was in the chair. The City Commissioners of Sewers, on Tuesday, appointed a committee to inquire what alterations of the law could be made for greater safety in the carriage of explosives. The Paddington vestry has also taken up this question, as the canal partly lies in that parish.

One of the houses where the greatest damage has been done is that of Mr. Alma Tadema, the Belgian artist, whose picture of "Joseph" was engraved for our last week's extra supplement. An account of his studio and its contents is given among our "Fine Arts" notices of this week. Several other well-known artists and literary men, residing in the neighbourhood, have been put to more or less inconvenience or loss. Mr. J. Barrett and Mr. J. Edgar Williams, portrait-painters; Mr. McWhirter, landscape-painter; Mr. Hepworth Dixon, Mrs. Howard Paul, Mr. Joseph Hatton, and Mr. John Leighton were among those who each had a special experience of this accident.

CANAL BOAT LIFE.

The deplorable misadventure on the Regent's Canal, narrated above, gives some additional interest to the "Sketches of Life on the Canal," which furnish some of our Engravings. The Grand Junction Canal, from the Thames at Brentford to the Oxford and Warwickshire Canal at Braunston, near Rugby, is one of the most important lines of goods traffic. It runs a long way parallel with the London and North-Western Railway twenty or thirty miles from London, and thence on to Blisworth, where it passes through a tunnel 3000 yards long. The Thames and Severn Canal, through Gloucestershire and Wiltshire, the Trent and Mersey Canal, in Staffordshire, Derbyshire, and Cheshire, the Worcester and Birmingham Canal, the Duke of Bridgewater's Canal from Manchester to the Mersey, and many connecting lines, form a complete system of water communication through the midland and north-western counties. They are not likely to be altogether superseded by railways, as they afford an economical means of carriage for heavy goods, at the uniform speed, continued day and night, of two miles and a half per hour. The barges usually travel in pairs, and are either towed by horses driven along the side path or by a steam-tug with a screw-propeller. In the tunnels, where there is no path for horses, the men can sometimes push the barge along with punting-poles; but in many tunnels, as in that of the Regent's Canal at Pentonville, the roof is not high enough for poles to be used. The men in this case are accustomed to lie upon their backs, one at each side of the barge, reclining on boards which project over the gunwale. They tread with their feet against the wall of the tunnel at each side, and by this laborious action propel the vessel till they get out of the tunnel. This process is called "legging," and is not quite so easy and pleasant as the more open navigation between wide stretches of green meadow, such as lie in the neighbourhood of Willesden, or down towards Hanwell and the Uxbridge road.

There are different classes of canal-boats. The inferior class of slow boats, which have no change of horses, and travel only in the daytime, belong commonly to the men who conduct them, and who pay the canal company for the use of the line. It is upon such boats as these you may see a whole family—man, wife, and children—making themselves a floating home, under circumstances too often of much discomfort. The fly-boats and monkey-boats which belong to the Canal Company, or to great carriers like Messrs. Pickford, are managed in a very systematic way. Each boat has a captain or steerer, with three men, or two men and a boy, who are chosen, fed, and paid by the captain under his contract with the company owning the boat. The leading boat, where two are linked together, is called the butty, and its captain has to get the locks opened, sending a messenger before him to summon the lock-keeper. There are nearly a hundred locks between London and the Warwickshire terminus of the Grand Junction line. A canal or river lock, as most of our readers are aware, is a sort of dock, built of masonry, in which the water can be raised or lowered, by two pairs of sluice-gates, one at each end of the lock. It is used to overcome the difference of level, in passing from a lower to a higher part of the canal, or from the

higher to the lower. When the boat is inclosed within the lock, the water in the lock is made level with that in the canal above or below, according to the direction in which the boat has to go. This invention is nearly 400 years old, and locks were constructed by Leonardo da Vinci, in Lombardy, about 1497. But the familiar and trivial incidents of "Life in a Canal Boat" do not require much explanation. An entertaining account of them, written some years ago for *Household Words*, or else for *All the Year Round*, is republished in the second volume of Mr. John Hollingshead's miscellaneous writings, which we lately noticed with due commendation.

FINE ARTS.

Our readers will hear with regret that Mr. Alma Tadema, the learned and admirable painter of subjects from ancient Roman and Egyptian life, and whose picture from the last Academy exhibition, "Joseph, Overseer of Pharaoh's Granaries," we engraved last week, has been one of the greatest sufferers by the frightful explosion on the Regent's Canal. A few years back Mr. Alma Tadema became a permanent dweller among us, and it is not long since he received letters of denization from the Queen. He took up his residence in Townsend House, North Gate, Regent's Park, which is situated in the terrace immediately facing the site of the explosion. This house he had fitted up, decorated, and furnished throughout, at considerable expense, with reference to his special aims in art, different rooms being arranged and decorated in styles accordant with the styles of architecture and decoration introduced in his pictures. The house is distinguished from outside by its colouration and the "salve" over the lintel, which now reads like a cruel mockery, for the whole building is a mere wreck. Only one room has partially escaped. The doors and windows are blown in, the plaster broken from ceilings and walls; the glass, including some curious stained glass, is shattered and scattered in every direction; the roof is almost destroyed, and the sky visible through it. The artist's handsome studio, decorated in the Pompeian style, is so shaken that light is visible through the cracks. Pompeii in its destruction may here be realised almost as vividly as its life and luxury are recalled in the artist's works. Mr. Tadema was in the Highlands when the accident occurred.

Mr. Haynes Williams, a young and rapidly rising painter of Spanish subjects, some of whose pictures we have also engraved, is another great sufferer, and his case is one of peculiar hardship. He had a short time back purchased the lease of No. 2, Teynham Villas, built a studio in the rear, and furnished the whole. Now the house and studio are a chaos of broken mortar, glass, &c., and the pictures the artist was engaged on are cut or otherwise injured by the falling of portions of the ceiling. The effects of the explosion are almost ruinous, and the artist has to commence, as it were, life afresh. Mr. McWhirter, the landscape-painter, has been similarly unfortunate, and several other artists residing in the St. John's-wood district have suffered considerably.

Mr. James Fergusson has an article in the *Contemporary Review* on the decoration of St. Paul's which, we think, deserves the attention of all interested in the subject. The writer concludes that few problems present a simpler and more certain solution than those involved in the completion of St. Paul's. So much is done that little remains to be done; what that little should be is so clearly indicated by the style of the building and that of contemporary examples that it is difficult to go wrong in matters of taste when the subject is fairly approached. His opinion is that £100,000 is amply sufficient to complete the church, and that Mr. Burges's proposal of £400,000 is absurdly extravagant. Mr. Fergusson thinks that the last thing to be undertaken is the choir and apse (which, however, have been the first parts actually commenced), because, being the most important and also the most difficult portions of the church to treat, they should be reserved till after having attained all possible experience from the decoration of other portions. In the dome and transept we have the example of St. Peter's, which must to some extent be followed, and therefore these parts (the dome particularly, being so far removed from the eye) would be the safest to commence upon. "In the nave what is most wanted is a marble pavement of rich and good design and a certain amount of marbling in plinths and panels. This would contribute more to give a furnished and finished look to the whole than any amount of colour in the roof. In addition to this, a certain moderate amount of gilding and colour might be applied to the capitals and cornices, and the smaller domes must be finished with figure-painting or emblems, but either in monochrome or with the least possible amount of colour. The windows require re-glazing, but might be done with ground glass, probably with a cut pattern in it, and set in ornamental frames. If any colours are introduced into them, it should only be as jewels, and occupying not more than one-twentieth of the whole surface. If all this were done, it would relieve the present cold, unfinished appearance of the nave in a wonderful manner, and to as great an extent as is compatible with the rest of the architecture as it is and must remain." The learned Professor's opinions are, it will be seen, dictated by common sense; they accord in spirit with views already expressed in this Journal, and we heartily recommend them to the attention of the Dean and Chapter.

The marble statue of the Queen, by Mr. Noble, which we noticed when in the last Academy exhibition, and which was removed to St. Thomas's Hospital a few weeks back, has been unveiled without special public ceremony. The statue was presented by Sir John Musgrove, Bart., president of the hospital, and is placed at the foot of the grand staircase.

The Blackburn Exhibition has been closed. About £1200 will be available from the receipts for the permanent enrichment of the free library and museum.

A school of art in connection with the South Kensington Museum and the Mechanics' Institute of Barnsley has been opened in that town by the Mayor.

An earthenware and china manufactory has been established in the city of Athens, and is chiefly conducted by Englishmen. The manager is Mr. Henry Tomkinson, late of Burslem.

An international exhibition is to be held in China, and a committee has been formed at Shanghai for the purpose of organising it, with the English Consul as its president. Messrs. John Bourne and Co., of Mark-lane, have been chosen as agents, so as to give every guarantee to European exhibitors. All charges of transport will be defrayed by the committee.

Eight new pictures by Boucher and Coypel have been added to the Louvre collections. They are the gift of the Marquis de Chennevières, the Directeur des Beaux Arts, and are placed in the Salle Lebrun.

The Russian Imperial Academy of the Fine Arts lately conferred the Academic grade of Professor on M. Veretschagin, whose very remarkable pictures from Central Asia were exhibited at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, last year. The artist has, however, written from Bombay to the "Voix" decidedly refusing to accept the distinction offered him, on the ground that all grades and dignities in art are injurious.

Messrs. Bruckmann, the fine-art publishers, of Henrietta-street, Covent-garden, are publishing reproductions in colour of Karl von Rottmann's celebrated frescoes, twenty-eight in number, representing Italian landscape, which decorate the arcades of the Hofgarten at Munich.

Tell's chapel, near Kussnacht, is in process of restoration. The dingy old walls are to be decorated with frescoes by a painter of Lucerne.

In the excavations of the Esquiline at Rome was lately discovered a group of sculpture belonging to the worship of Jupiter, with a statue of that god, about two feet high, and some votive offerings from sailors of the fleet.

MUSIC.

THE LIVERPOOL FESTIVAL.

In completion of our last week's record of this great music meeting we have now to speak of the Thursday's proceedings more in detail than was then possible.

As already said, the morning of that day was occupied by the performance of Mr. Arthur Sullivan's oratorio, "The Light of the World." This work was commissioned for and produced at last year's Birmingham Festival, on which occasion and subsequently (when given in London, with some curtailments and improvements) we dwelt at such length on its characteristics and merits as to render detail on this occasion unnecessary. Again, as before, the choral portions were the most effective in performance, and these received every advantage from the excellent choristers assembled at Liverpool, the solos having been finely sung by Miss Edith Wynne, Madame Patey, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. E. Lloyd, and Mr. Santley.

The concert of the Thursday evening brought forward Mr. J. F. Barnett's orchestral "Suite," written in illustration of "The Lay of the Last Minstrel"—a work commissioned and specially composed for the Liverpool Festival. It consists of four divisions—a larghetto, a romance, a scherzo, and a final chant triumphale, respectively entitled "Fair Melrose," "Lady Margaret and the Knight," "The Elfin Page," and "The Triumph of Cranston." Each of these movements displays Mr. Barnett's practised skill in the command of orchestral effects, and all were greatly applauded, the scherzo having been encored. Mr. Barnett, who conducted his work, was twice recalled after its close. The concert included fine performances of Mendelssohn's Italian Symphony, Weber's overture to "Euryanthe," and Mozart's to "Le Nozze di Figaro," a violin solo brilliantly performed by Mr. J. T. Carrodus (and encored), and vocal pieces by Mdle. Albani, Madame Patey, Mr. Lloyd, and Mr. Santley.

With the evening concert of Thursday week the festival may be considered virtually to have closed—the following proceedings having been of a supplemental nature. These consisted, on Friday, of a competition of choral societies—choirs and soloists—in St. George's Hall. The judges were Sir Julius Benedict and Messrs. G. A. Macfarren, Brinley Richards, J. L. Hatten, J. F. Barnett, and C. F. Hargitt. The prize of £100 was gained by the Liverpool Philharmonic choir, and a second prize of £20 by the Carnarvon Philharmonic Choral Society. A prize of £30 was won by the Birkenhead Cambrian Choral Society, and a second prize of £10 by the Edgill Vocal Society. The choir of the Church for the Blind (Liverpool) obtained the first prize for choir-singing (£10), which was doubled by Mr. E. Samuelson, ex-Mayor of Liverpool. The second prize in music (£5) was awarded to the Emmanuel Church choir (Liverpool). The solo competition then took place, the prizes being for each voice—first, a gold medal or purse of £10; second, £5 worth of music. The festival closed with a grand ball at the Townhall.

The success of the Liverpool Festival has been great, as regards its organisation and musical efficiency; but the financial results appear to have been less satisfactory, and the local charities—in whose behalf the performances were given—will scarcely benefit to the extent anticipated. The skilful direction of the performances generally by Sir Julius Benedict, the able co-operation of the respective heads of divisions under his command, and the excellence of the solo singers engaged were special features of the occasion.

Saturday's Promenade Concert brought forward a new singer, in the person of Mdle. Franchino (of the Paris Grand Opera), who made her first appearance in England on the occasion, and obtained a great success by her brilliant singing in the "King of Thule," ballad, and the "Jewel Song," from "Faust," and the mad scene from "Lucia di Lammermoor." The lady's voice is a genuine soprano, of bright yet sympathetic quality, she executes with facility, and her shake is especially good, her dramatic feeling being also apparently of a superior order.

The Saturday afternoon concerts at the Crystal Palace will be resumed this week, when the nineteenth series will be inaugurated with a selection of varied interest, including Mendelssohn's "Military Overture," Wagner's "Faust Overture," Beethoven's second symphony (in D), and Sir W. Sterndale Bennett's fourth pianoforte concerto (in F minor), to be played by Mr. Franklin Taylor.

We have already given an outline of the arrangements for the Leeds Festival, which is to begin on Wednesday next. As at the Liverpool Festival, "St. Paul" is chosen for the opening performance.

The statement that has been circulated announcing that orchestral concerts are about to be established by Mr. Arthur Chappell at St. James's Hall is erroneous.

Our contemporary the *Choir* states that the arrangements for the approaching festival of the College of Organists, to be held in St. Paul's Cathedral on Tuesday, Oct. 20, are now nearly completed. The music will comprise the canticles, "Cantate Domino" and "Deus Misereatur," composed by Mr. H. G. Trembath, Mus. Bac., which gained the prize for the present year; prize anthems by Haydn, Keaton, Mus. Bac., and C. J. Frost, F.C.O., special psalms and hymns, &c. A service book has been issued by the committee, at the almost nominal price of sixpence. The choir will be large and complete. The members of the Church Choral Society of London will take part in the services. Contingents from the cathedrals and chief metropolitan choirs and one entire country choir will attend. Dr. Stainer, as organist of the cathedral, and as a prominent member of the council of the college and chairman of the benevolent fund committee, will preside at the organ, and his presence will be duly appreciated by the organists assembled. The postlude will include several prize organ voluntaries, the property of the college. During the service a collection will be made with the object of enlarging the means of the benevolent fund. Mr. R. Limpus, secretary of the college, has been zealous and active in forwarding the arrangements for the festival.

Madame Adelina Patti sang, yesterday week, at Mr. Kuhe's annual concert, in the dome of the Pavilion at Brighton, and met with an enthusiastic reception. She was encored four times, and responded to each. Madame Sinico, Mdle. Enriquez, and Signor Poli were among the other artists who took part in the concert.

Upwards of 12,000 persons assembled at Newport, on Monday, in connection with the great choral competition, which took place in a pavilion specially erected. The principal attraction was the prize of £100 for the best rendering of the choruses, "Thanks be to God" ("Elijah") and "We never will bow down" ("Judas Maccabeus"). Seven choirs competed, and the prize was divided between the Ebbw Vale and Aberdare choirs, each consisting of 600 voices. The proceedings were continued on Tuesday.

THEATRES.

SURREY.

Our principal transpontine theatre has followed the example of more fashionable establishments, and begun the business of the season with a new play, and, as might have been expected, one of a nautical description. The title of the new drama is characteristic—"Ship Ahoy!" It is an adaptation, by Mr. George Roberts, of a story with the same title by Mr. George Manville Fenn, dedicated to Mr. Samuel Plimsoll, M.P. Under the auspices of "the seaman's friend," the new venture ought, at least, to be safe. The work has been carefully rehearsed under the direction of Mr. Holland, the manager, and Mr. Roberts. The curtain rises on the view of the mansion of a shipowner in Canonbury, one Mr. Halley (Mr. Henry Forrester, who boasts of his probity and manifests no small degree of pride. Owner of a vessel called, after his daughter, the Merry May (Miss Margaret Cooper), he has resolved on an advantageous match for his child; but she has already betrothed herself to the captain of the vessel, John Anderson (Mr. John Nelson). The rivals meet, and Phillip Merritt (Mr. H. C. Sidney), the father's choice, is assaulted by the bluff and honest seaman, who is accordingly dismissed from his employer's service. He finds another master in Mr. Longdale (Mr. F. Shepherd), the proprietor of what are called "coffin-ships," in whose firm, however, Merritt has an interest; and he, with Joe Basalt, the mate (Mr. J. Plumpton), ventures on board the *Victrix*, which is ultimately wrecked. The scene of the wreck is the great spectacular hit of the piece. The crew are mutinous, and in resisting their turbulence Anderson is stabbed; and after the sinking of the vessel is watched over by Joe, as he is stretched on a raft. Suddenly the Merry May is sighted, and both find safety in their old vessel. Such is the exciting argument of the first two acts. The arrival of the Merry May at Liverpool with Anderson and Basalt on board is rather unwelcome to Longdale and Merritt. On the love trials and love triumphs that follow we prefer to be silent. There is, however, a needful fight beforehand, and a conflagration of the landing-place, in which the wicked perish and from which the innocent escape. The action in one part is aided by a hornpipe by Mr. Plumpton, danced by a bevy of ladies in appropriate costume. The scenery, particularly the last, giving a view of Liverpool and its shipping, is excellent. Altogether, the new drama has merit. The dialogue is perhaps occasionally redundant, but the situations are always effective. The principal performers were called to the front with enthusiasm.

LYCEUM.

This theatre, now open for the season, is nightly filled to see Mr. Irvine in "The Bells." The performance of "Hamlet" has been necessarily postponed, owing to the indisposition of Miss Bateman, who is, happily, now convalescent.

HAYMARKET.

Last Saturday Mdle. Beatrice closed her engagement at this house with the two dramas of "The Sphinx" and "Our Friends," which were performed with great applause to a large and respectable audience. To-night Mr. Buckstone resumes the management of the theatre, and Mr. Sothorn appears again as Lord Dundreary.

PHILHARMONIC.

This theatre was reopened on Saturday with the performance of M. Lecocq's now famous work, "Giroflé-Girofla." The merits of the drama are of a high class, and the manner in which it is presented at this house will ensure a rapid and extraordinary success. It is admirably written, and reflects the greatest credit on the adapter. The twin-sisters are represented by Miss Julia Mathews, the young lover by Mr. Fisher, the anxious parents by Mr. Garden and Miss H. Everard, and the terrible Moor by Mr. Rosenthal; Miss J. Pratt and Mdle. Marretti completing the cast. Aided by a decent band and an unusually good chorus, the Opéra Comique music was well reproduced. Mr. W. H. Fisher, a good actor who can sing, fills up a deficiency, which was much felt in London, in comic opera and burlesque. He has a good prospect before him.

We are requested by Mr. Robert Black to contradict the report that he has gone to Edinburgh to edit *Chambers's Journal*. He has gone to Edinburgh, but not for that purpose.

Lord Henry Lennox, First Commissioner of Works, on Tuesday officially inspected the old palace and abbey, Dunfermline, where King Robert the Bruce and other Kings and Queens of Scotland are interred, to determine the extent of repairs to be made on the palace.

The annual meeting of the Highclere Agricultural Association was held, on Tuesday, at Palmer's farm, on Lord Carnarvon's estate near Newbury. His Lordship, who presided, entered at some length on questions suggested by the prevalent agitation in the agricultural districts and the relations of capital and labour.—After the annual prize ploughing-match at Cookham, also on Tuesday, a number of the members of the Royal East Berks Agricultural Association dined together at the Townhall, Maidenhead. Mr. G. H. Vansittart, the president of the society, occupied the chair, and among the other gentlemen present were the three members for the county, Mr. R. Benyon, Colonel Loyd-Lindsay, and Mr. Walter. Colonel Loyd-Lindsay, in responding to the toast of "The Army," made a comparison between our military force and the armies of Continental nations. In equipment and all that money could buy, our army excelled; but our men were inferior in intelligence to those forming the armies on the Continent, while the universal conscription that prevailed in Germany and France made our army immensely inferior numerically; but that law would scarcely be applicable in this country; yet he strongly deprecated the enlisting of every weakly young man who presented himself. Mr. Benyon did not think that the labourers had used their opportunities of advancement aright, though no one expected them to work for 12s. a week. Mr. Walter attributed the political changes in the government of the country to the desire of the public to watch the effect of previous legislation, especially as regarded the Education Act, and not to enter into any other radical changes. He did not take so gloomy a view of the position of the Army as Colonel Lindsay, the organisation of a reserve never before having been attempted here. He took an encouraging view of the position of the agricultural labourer, for it had greatly improved during the present century. Still the law of supply and demand would always regulate the rate of wages.

MEMBERS OUT OF PARLIAMENT.

As may be supposed, one of the interests of that which was to be an uninteresting Session, which it was not after all, was the watching of nascent members when they emerged from their shells. On the whole, it may be said that probably more neophytes made first appearances than has usually been the case in the beginning of a new Parliament. Some of them were very good, notably Mr. Hall, who has been lately spoken of in this chronicle; and there was Lord Edward Stanhope, who is so youthful-looking that the surprise at his proving himself master of a rather difficult subject was complete; and there were others, who will probably turn up in the recess before their constituents, and will receive due notice at the proper time. But just now we have to do with Mr. Ritchie, who established the representation of Conservatism in the Tower Hamlets, a consummation for which the professors of that political creed in the borough had long been panting; and, besides, did the additional deed of turning out Mr. Ayrton, who had so long been tenant of a seat there, and of whom many now say "that they could better have spared a better man." Part of the Tower Hamlets is on the river and in the port of London, which may account for the fact that two shipowners are now its members, Mr. Samuda having retained the seat which he gained in 1868. Of Mr. Ritchie it may be said he is what the late Mr. Richardson, of Bartlemy fair memory, used to call a "bould spaker." He is fluent, he is loud, he is energetic, and he is evidently capable of being long, and when he delivered his principal speech last Session he made the House hear him. He has some personal advantages, and has a Spanish cast of countenance. Altogether, he is calculated to deal with a popular audience, his manner being hearty and sometimes bluff; and a few days ago he made himself decidedly acceptable to a body of his electors, and so illustrated the goodness of Conservatism as to receive a warm indorsement of his sentiments from those who listened to him, besides the imprimatur of Sir James Hogg, who went into the far East to lend him the light of his patronage.

The Conservatives of South Hants have been feasting some of their members at Lymington, and the gathering affords opportunity of noticing two of the products of the last election. Sir Henry Drummond Woolf is a not undistinguished member of the diplomatic service, and was a candidate for Parliamentary honours in 1868, having essayed to win the borough of Christchurch, for which he has sat since February last, when he gained a seat for the Conservative party. He has been a tolerably frequent speaker, but has always hitherto been judiciously brief, and appears likely to fall into that category of members which is known as the sensible and practical. He has not developed any oratorical graces, and is mild in his demeanour, but seems to be in earnest.

The craze of Conservatism which raged during the late election had a special effect at Winchester, and caused what most people ought to think an act of electoral ingratitude; for Mr. Bonham-Carter, who had represented the borough uninterruptedly since 1847, and who had so carried on a course of unobtrusive usefulness in the business of the House as to have become in the eyes of habitués of Parliament a permanent institution, was ruthlessly set aside for an unknown man. This was done, too, just as his acknowledged services as a private member had been publicly rewarded by his having been appointed Chairman of Committees. His Liberalism was of a gentle type, while his great geniality and his business habits rendered him a man, of all others, to be returned to a new Parliament. But caprice had its way, and he was sacrificed in order that the representation of the borough might become wholly Conservative. In his place there sits a gentleman who, to judge from one or two appearances which he made last Session, is destined to be a back-bencher for the term of his Parliamentary life. In that quiet position Mr. Naghten, no doubt, will be content, and prove a straight Tory vote; though, as he has exhibited a tendency to comicality, he may now and again rouse the house from its apathy in the dull hours when the process of restoration is going on. It would seem that Mr. Naghten's speech at the gathering alluded to was well received, and perhaps he is a success on the provincial stage. It was observable that Lord Henry Scott—who, as representative of South Hants, had an honoured place at the banquet at Lymington—was distinguished, last Session, by the universality of his interference in all the important questions that were under consideration. He was earnest, and obviously strove to be energetic; but his physical powers are not equal to his good intentions, and he could not make much mark. Doubtless, at Lymington he would be the observed of all observers, and made much of, as is the manner of pleased constituents.

There are no less than three gentlemen in the House who bear the name of Arkwright. Two of them represent respective divisions of the county of Derby, and one is member for Leominster, and all of them are, at present—no doubt, temporarily—obscure. The one who is the most recent accession to the House, being a product of the last general election, has been, so to speak, practising with foils—that is, experimenting oratorically on a provincial audience; and he expressed certain opinions clearly and composedly, which perhaps he will one day declare in his place in the Legislature.

In the general depression which was upon Liberal members last Session, perhaps Mr. Lambert—the third member for Bucks, and by consequence a colleague of the Prime Minister—participated, for nothing was heard from him about his grand financial scheme, which it is believed is to annihilate all taxation, which he has more than once propounded to a very small part of the House with infinite gravity and sober earnestness. Deficiency in the chronicles renders it impossible to say whether or not he delivered himself of some of his crotchets at a meeting which he attended at Aylesbury the other day. It may well, however, be asserted that if he did show how the National Debt is to be paid off, his audience entirely appreciated him, for the negative reason that they could not by any possibility understand him, unless they are far more intelligent and possessed of better perceptions than the House of Commons itself.

It is curious how many gentlemen there are who have sat long in the House, and yet are wholly unknown to constant observers of things Parliamentary, and who give no other tokens of their legislative existence than their names in the division lists. Up to the election of this year Mr. Dupré was one of the members for Bucks; and according to his co-member, Mr. Disraeli, he was an excellent member, though this was said without definition; but he was wholly unrecognisable personally by those who are prone to give individuality to members. This was a special case of voluntary obscurity. At the meeting at Aylesbury was to be found another example of the "blushing unseen" in membership, for Mr. Samuel Smith has represented that borough for nearly a quarter of a century, and he has not taken any steps to enlarge "Hansard" by one sentence, and has done nothing to bring himself into notice. But, no doubt, he, too, "is an excellent member," according to the unexplained doctrine of the Prime Minister, who is an authority in such matters not to be disputed.



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AT A CONCERT OF THE LIVERPOOL MUSICAL FESTIVAL



THE DUEL. BY S. CARTER.



THE LATE BRYAN WALLER PROCTER (BARRY CORNWALL).

THE LATE "BARRY CORNWALL."

The literary world has lost an estimable scholar and writer of genial poetry, whose life had indeed been extended far beyond the time when he desisted from productive authorship. "Barry Cornwall" has been during more than fifty years the assumed publishing name of Mr. Bryan Waller Procter; and he died last Sunday at his house in Weymouth-street. He was eighty-six or eighty-seven years of age. At Harrow he was a schoolfellow of Lord Byron and Sir Robert Peel, both of whom afterwards spoke of him with friendly remembrance. Procter was brought up to the law, being first articled to a solicitor at Calne, in Wiltshire, and placed afterwards in a conveyancer's office in town. He practised as a conveyancer, and was called to the Bar as a member of Gray's Inn. In 1815 he published a volume of "Dramatic Sketches." Five years afterwards he gained public attention by "A Sicilian Story," which was followed by "Marcian Colonna" and the tragedy of "Mirandola;" this was acted with success by Macready at Covent Garden Theatre. A series of "English Songs," composed at a later period, is now more widely known. "The Sea" and "The Vine" are perhaps the most popular of these lyrics. Mr. Procter married a lady who was connected with the late Mr. Basil Montagu. He had two sons and four daughters. One of these, Miss Adelaide Anne Procter, inherited her father's genius, and wrote many thoughtful poems. She died several years ago. Mr. Procter held some time the office of a Commissioner of Lunacy. His chief prose works are a biography of Edmund Kean and memoirs of Charles Lamb, with whom he had been intimate. He also edited Ben Jonson, and wrote critical notices of the British poets.

The portrait is from a photograph by Mr. Herbert Watkins.

Last year 65,492 travellers crossed the St. Gothard Pass, 28,144 the Splügen, and 27,671 passed over the Simplon.

The first instalment of the promised Domesday Book has been published. It relates to Scotland, where it appears that there are 131,530 landowners, and that the gross annual value of their lands is £18,698,804, or about three millions less than the value of London. By far the largest landowner in Scotland is the Duke of Buccleuch, whose Scotch rent-roll is £194,500. The Duke of Hamilton comes next with £120,000. The Duke of Argyll has £50,000, which is £21,000 less than the Earl of Seafield. The Marquis of Bute's Scotch rent-roll is £40,000, a small proportion of his total estates. The Duke of Sutherland is put down for £57,000, the Earls of Dalhousie and Aberdeen are about the same. The Queen's Balmoral estate is worth under £3000. The Prince of Wales has a small Scotch estate, valued at £816, and Mr. Carlyle one at £250 a year.

NEW BOOKS.

HISTORY OF MERCHANT SHIPPING.

That information concerning past affairs which is termed "history" does not seem less worthily occupied with the progress of useful arts than with military and political transactions. The arts of shipbuilding and navigation, and their application to the service of trade, are certainly among the most useful, and claim a faithful historian of their own. Mr. W. S. Lindsay, sometime M.P. for Tynemouth, is qualified for this task at least by practical acquaintance with the subject, during many years of his life both as a sailor and as a shipowner. His book, which bears the title, *History of Merchant Shipping and Ancient Commerce*, will be complete in four volumes; but the first two volumes only have just been published by Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston, and Searle. These are sufficient, however, to warrant our forming a high estimate of the value of the whole work, since in the portion yet to come, which will relate the extensive changes within the author's own lifetime, his testimony and judgment must obtain due consideration.

There has not yet appeared any comprehensive review of the wonderful growth of our mercantile marine, and especially its transformation into the new type of iron steamships, during the last quarter of a century; or of the experiences lately gained, and the large interests created, by opening new routes of oceanic traffic. We shall expect from Mr. Lindsay, when his third and fourth volumes are ready, such an account of these matters as few writers are equally competent to give us. An earnest of the manner in which he is likely to deal with the practical survey of existing maritime business and property is presented in the last two or three chapters of his second volume. One of these furnishes a minute description of the docks in the ports of London and Liverpool; but another supplies, what many landmen have often desired to know, the exact rules and practices with regard to the organisation and discipline of the ship's company on board an ordinary merchant vessel. The duties of the different officers, the master or captain, the chief mate, the second mate, and in some cases a third mate, the carpenter, the sailmaker, the steward and the cook, are here precisely defined. We may here learn, also, the distinction between able seamen and ordinary seamen, the condition of "boys" or apprentices, and the division of their respective labours. The turns of keeping watch and of steering, the care of the log, and the order prescribed for making or shortening sail, tacking, and other manœuvres, are clearly explained. These well-authenticated details will help our understanding of many particulars often met with in the narrative of a voyage, or in a story of life at sea. But the present account does not include the arrange-

ments on board steam-ships, which will come within the scope of Mr. Lindsay's two remaining volumes.

The entire work, to judge not merely from what is now before us, but also from the author's position and manifest ability to treat of this subject, will be one of standard merit and use. It is perhaps as well, at the outset, to note the tokens of his more especial aptitude for the exposition of what has more recently been done in the improvement of shipping. This should in fairness be remarked, because the earlier history in these first two volumes makes no great pretension to originality of research. It brings, indeed, fresh arguments and evidence to bear on some incidental topics of antiquarian discussion which had exercised the minds of previous inquirers. But, with such exceptions, this review of ancient shipping and navigation contains little that is new; yet it seems, nevertheless, a natural and needful introduction to the development of modern shipping and maritime commerce. The proportion, too, is fairly observed between these different parts of the entire history. Only half the first volume is occupied with all that the author finds it needful to relate of what belongs to ancient and mediæval nations. The primitive floating vehicles, the skin filled with air, the raft, or the hollowed tree, which may still be seen in use among savage mankind, are first examined. Then we have Noah's Ark, which is regarded as probably a large raft having sheds built upon it, and not propelled or guided by those on board it, but drifting on the mighty flood. The voyage of the Argonauts, and those of Homer's heroes in the "Iliad" and the "Odyssey," are next considered. The Phœnicians and Carthaginians, with their traffic not only all over the Mediterranean, but outside the Strait of Gibraltar, and across the Bay of Biscay to our south-western coast, begin the properly historical series. The inland navigation of Egypt under the Pharaohs is carefully examined, and then come the shipments made by Solomon and Hiram of Tyre down the Red Sea to Ophir. The large and stately vessels constructed by a Ptolemy who reigned in Egypt, and a Hiero at Syracuse, are criticised with much nautical judgment. They were most likely intended for mere parade and pleasure in smooth waters. The class of vessels employed in the Alexandrian corn trade under the Roman Empire is exemplified by that in which St. Paul was wrecked. Its build and equipment were ably discussed in a treatise by Mr. James Smith, of Jordan Hill, which is followed with additional remarks by the present author.

The rise of the Byzantine Empire, the grand port of Constantinople, and the conflicts with the Vandal pirates settling in North Africa bring us into the Middle Ages. We now come round to the North Sea, the Scandinavian Vikings, the Danes and the Saxons upon the shores of

these islands. The Norman conquests here and in France, the Norman and the Saracen achievements in the Mediterranean, the trading and fighting prowess of the Italian republics, Amalfi, Venice, Pisa, and Genoa, and the commerce of Marseilles, fill their due space in these chapters. Along with the progress of the Italian mercantile marine and naval power in the Levant, we are shown the slower but healthy growth of English seafaring life in our narrow seas. Upon this portion of the history we shall naturally prefer to dwell. It extends through the reigns of our Plantagenet Kings. At the end of this period, which may be regarded as the close of the Middle Ages, English maritime enterprise bursts out into a wider activity, following not far behind the oceanic exploits of Portugal and Spain. The first volume of Mr. Lindsay's work ends with Columbus; and the second volume opens with the continuance of the Spanish and Portuguese maritime conquests, about the beginning of the sixteenth century. The era of their predominance on the ocean is succeeded by that of the Dutch, and of the English from Queen Elizabeth's reign to the period of our Civil Wars. But this leads the author, not too far on in his second volume, to enter fairly upon the history of English maritime and commercial policy, from the time of our quarrels with the Dutch in the seventeenth century. The main narrative, therefore, undertaken by Mr. Lindsay, is that of a great national interest of England during the last two hundred years. Here, it is evident, he will command greater advantages of practical knowledge than in the earlier portion of his work.

We are still much in the dark about ancient shipping; yet it would not be serviceable to pursue investigations of an obscure nature very much beyond where they are left by the professed students of antiquity. An exception, indeed, has been found in the discussion upon the construction and equipment of the ancient row-galleys, with several tiers of oars one above another. This is an old problem, which the late Emperor Napoleon III. designed to solve, it was said, by his model of a trireme on the Seine, in the course of his studies for the "Life of Julius Caesar." Mr. Lindsay has taken some pains with it, and those who feel any curiosity about the matter should consult his chapter thereupon, with the illustrative diagrams. He is very likely to be in the right. Julius Caesar's Commentaries are the starting-point of British history, and Mr. Lindsay has a personal predilection for this epoch. He resides at Shepperton, just where the Roman legions forded the Thames, after marching along the banks of the Mole from the southern side of the chalk hills near Dorking, in their pursuit of Cassivelaunus, who had executed a strategic retreat to the westward, from the extremity of Kent, with his back against the ridge of the Kent and Surrey Downs. This is not exactly the history of shipping, but it follows well enough upon the calculations with reference to Caesar's means of transporting his soldiers across the Channel from Gaul. The population of South Britain at that period, at least of these Home Counties and Hampshire, did not consist of Celtic savages, but of the Belgian race, who then inhabited the opposite Continental shores from the Rhine to the Seine. Their sea-going boats were not the Welsh coracles, mere wicker baskets covered with hides, but oak-built barges of sixty tons burden, like those of the Veneti which Caesar describes. It does not appear that the structure of these vessels was much improved under the Roman government of our island. The British trade with Europe was therefore carried on not across the Bay of Biscay to the Strait of Gibraltar, but, through the internal river navigation of Gaul, to Lyons, and to Narbonne or Marseilles.

The next class of vessels are those of the Scandinavian pirates, which were fit for Atlantic voyages. An illustration is given of one recently found in tolerable preservation in Denmark. It is well built of oaken planks, which are laid in clinker fashion to overlap each other, nailed together and morticed to the cross-beams and gunwale. The length is 77 ft., with considerable breadth of beam. The two ends are alike, with bows and high prows rising together with the keel, so that the boat could move either way at pleasure. There are thirty rowlocks, fifteen on each side, and a large steering-paddle. No trace of a mast for sailing is found in this vessel, but it seems as good a sea-boat for rowing as any of the ancient nations ever possessed. Another boat found in the old bed of the Rother, on the Kentish shore, was 63 ft. long and 15 ft. broad, half-decked, and with at least one mast. Little reliance can be placed on accounts of the vessels which brought the Saxon invaders to Britain; and of the Danish holkers, drakers, and snekkars we have no exact description. Their fantastic figure-heads and gorgeous standards occupy more of the chroniclers' attention than the hull or the equipment of these ships. The accounts, too, of William the Conqueror's fleet of transports from Normandy are vague and uncertain. The figures in the Bayeux tapestry, designed by artists who had never seen any ships, are worthless as evidence; so are the pictures in monkish manuscripts.

From the establishment of the Cinque Ports naval service under the Norman Kings, and the crusading expedition of Richard Cœur de Lion, we may date the commencement of English maritime power. The Rôles d'Oleron, a code of laws for seafaring men, which continued in force more than a century, was promulgated by Richard after his return from Acre. In the corporate seals of Dover, Poole, Sandwich, and Faversham, and that of the Vice-Admiral of Suffolk, we have some figures of ships, conventional and rather grotesque, but which show how they were rigged with yards to be raised or lowered, sails to be furled, and shrouds for ascending to the mast head. The fore-castles and poop-castles, as well as the sentry-boxes or maintops at the mast-heads, are enormously exaggerated in all these representations of old shipping. It is not unlikely, we think, that these excrescences were put up only when the vessel was in actual military employment. They would be worse than useless in a commercial voyage.

The vicissitudes of English trade and warlike power at sea under the Plantagenets, the effects of their wars with France and Scotland, and of the rivalry of Flemish and Spanish merchantmen, constitute a very important part of our national history. Mr. Lindsay treats these matters rather fully, and presents them to view in an interesting manner. The errors and mischiefs of protectionist legislation, begun at that era, have remained to be combated in our day by the political champions of Free Trade, with whom Mr. Lindsay was intimately and actively associated before he retired from public life. He therefore bestows a good share of attention, throughout the present work, upon this aspect of maritime affairs. It strikes us that a translation of his book into the language of one of those foreign nations which have not yet been converted to Free Trade doctrine may some day or other be made useful for the attainment of such reforms as Great Britain has already effected in her own case. But this is a premature suggestion while half the book is still unpublished; and we lack the space here to follow its author into themes of controversy.

The literary associations, too, of his subject are not neglected; he comments upon Chaucer's portrait of the Dartmouth Skipper, in the "Prologue to the Canterbury Tales;" and he quotes a very curious metrical essay, about Henry V.'s time, on the policy by which England should keep the "Power of the Sea." It is to be observed that there was a time when this kingdom actually

claimed a maritime dominion from the coast of Norway to the northern coast of Spain. The substantial powers and interests belonging to that prerogative are here noticed. They have long been obsolete, yet their former existence seems quite enough to account for the old French jealousy of our position at sea.

The Mediterranean, to which English ships gained admission in the reign of Richard III., had been occupied during four or five centuries before by those of Italy. Mr. Lindsay's notices of the size, form, and equipment of the Italian ships, drawn from what little information there is, are much to the purpose. Among the extant documents concerning them are the contracts of Venetian and Genoese shipbuilders, in 1268, to construct certain vessels for Louis IX. But Mr. Lindsay points out that the dimensions herein stated cannot be correct, as the masts and sails far exceed what the hull would carry. We are disposed likewise to be rather sceptical about the large numbers of soldiers or other passengers said to have been conveyed by the ships used in the Crusades. It is only towards the end of the fifteenth century that we get an approach to consistency and accuracy in these accounts. We do not know even the size of the memorable three vessels with which, on Aug. 3, 1492, Columbus and the brothers Pinzon sailed from Palos to cross the Atlantic; only that one had a complete deck, but the other two were open in the middle. There were much larger ships, indeed, then in existence, up to 700 tons burden, and some with an upper and a lower deck. Oars, pulled by galley-slaves, were now chiefly used in the swift ships of war, made to strike an enemy with their sharp beaks, like our modern steam-rams. A partial explanation is given of the various names applied to different classes of ships in the Middle Ages; but there is still much uncertainty about this part of the subject.

After the voyages of Columbus to the West Indies, of the Cabots to the American Continent, and of Vasco de Gama round the Cape to the East Indies, with Nunez de Balboa's discovery of the Pacific, and the circumnavigation of the globe round Cape Horn by Magalhaens, the modern era of the history of shipping is fairly commenced. We read of the manifold services of Sebastian Cabot, the plans of Robert Thorne of Bristol, the establishment of the Merchant Venturers' Company, the hopes of a North Polar route to India, and Sir Hugh Willoughby's expedition to the Arctic seas north of Europe. Henry VIII.'s efforts to form a powerful navy are described, and those of his youthful successor. At a later period we are introduced to the Elizabethan privateers and buccaneers, of whose outrageous conduct Mr. Lindsay speaks with serious reprobation. Such bold and skilful navigators as Hawkins and Drake, and other English sea-rovers of that age, were guilty of the most disgraceful acts of piracy to the cost of foreign Papistical nations, whom they held fair game even without a declaration of war. The African kidnapping slave trade is another monstrous wickedness to be set down to Sir John Hawkins. It is well that the present historian does not seek to palliate the crimes of his famous countrymen. The seventeenth century begins with the creation of the Old East India Company; and its rivalry with the Dutch East India Company, after the success of the Dutch in supplanting the Portuguese, is related in the same chapter. Sir Walter Raleigh's views of the true commercial policy of England are quoted, with his exposure of the backwardness, at that time, of our mercantile marine compared with that of Holland. The operations of our Muscovy Company, our Turkey Company, and our Virginia and Massachusetts Companies, as well as our East India Company, are duly noticed. From this period to the beginning of the nineteenth century, which is the limit of historical time comprised in the two volumes before us, the author mostly devotes his attention to the effects upon our maritime interests of political events, and especially of our position towards foreign nations. There seems to have been little improvement, during nearly a century and a half, in the structure of ordinary merchant-vessels. So far back as 1609 the "Trades' Increase," built for our East India Company, was of 1200 tons burden, with tenders of 200 tons. The Dutch ships of that age were very superior in form and equipment. Our contention with them for the carrying trade of the world began with the laws of Cromwell's Parliament to prohibit imports into England, Ireland, or the colonies, except in English ships. In the wars of 1652, 1664, and following years, their Van Tromp and De Ruyter met Blake and other English commanders off our eastern shores, or made their way up the Thames and Medway; but the result was favourable to our maritime ascendancy. Between 1666 and 1688 the amount of English shipping was doubled, while that of Holland, though much exceeding ours, began to decline.

The French had now again become our rivals beyond sea, but more in colonial and imperial dominion than in competition for trade. This contest runs through great part of the last century, but is mingled with other transactions—the development of the African slave trade and the West Indian sugar trade, the disputes with our North American colonies about freedom of navigation to their ports, and the oppressive fiscal measures that provoked their War of Independence. A more entertaining topic is the progress of geographical discovery in the South Seas and the Pacific Ocean, from sturdy old Dampier to that best and greatest of British sailors, Captain James Cook. He ought to have a centenary festival just now, for he was making his second voyage exactly a hundred years ago. We owe to him, above all other men, our possessions in Australia and New Zealand; but we scarcely seem to remember his name, and we have not called any colonial province after him. Yet it is not without grateful and admiring affection that we look upon Mr. E. W. Cooke's drawing of James Cook's last ship, "The Discovery," engraved for Mr. Lindsay's second volume.

The latest portion of maritime history which is here put before us (except a good sketch of the seafaring business of the East India Company to 1834) is that of the great French War, from 1793 to 1815. It was accompanied with Napoleon's decrees to exclude us from the Continent, and with the Orders in Council by which our Government took its revenge upon his subjects and allies. But added to these events is the war that we got into with the United States, in 1812, for certain belligerent and sovereign rights we claimed on the high seas. Mr. Lindsay's narrative is, to the best of our knowledge, an accurate and sufficient account of those passages in diplomacy, warfare, and legislation. His sentiments are favourable to equity and liberality, and are expressed with a moderation which engages our esteem. The tone of candour and fairness in his book, preserved through many difficult questions of right and wrong, is one of its chief merits. We shall look for the two volumes yet to come as likely to contain more original and valuable matter. The work is illustrated with maps, diagrams, and plans, and many other engravings.

Baroness Burdett-Coutts on Tuesday distributed prizes among carters and donkey-drivers of Torquay who had distinguished themselves by humane treatment of the patient brutes under their control. The exhibitors and their wives afterwards took tea together, provided for them by the Baroness. Fifty-four horses and thirty-seven donkeys were shown, all in good condition. One pony was thirty-eight years old, one donkey thirty-four, and another twenty-six.

THE MAGAZINES FOR OCTOBER.

The most important contributions to the magazines this month relate to topics of urgent public interest, being Mr. Chamberlain's essay in the *Fortnightly* on the means of effecting the reunion of the Liberal party, and Mr. Gladstone's disquisition on Ritualism in the *Contemporary Review*. Both, we must fear, are indicative of the prevailing exhaustion and indecision—not, indeed, that Mr. Chamberlain's tone is deficient in confidence, occasionally amounting to arrogance; but the substance of his paper is exceedingly weak. The old Radicals were not accustomed to call upon the less advanced chiefs of their party to inaugurate a policy, giving them the choice of any one among half a dozen. They themselves selected one upon which their own minds were fixed, brought it themselves before the public, and convinced their leaders by first convincing the nation. Reforms of the sweeping description advocated by Mr. Chamberlain must come from below, not from above; and we must take his summons to the moderate Liberals to descend into the arena as a proof that he secretly regards the agitation for "free church, free land, free labour" as, in the present state of public opinion, merely artificial. Let him make it a genuine one, and they will descend of their own accord. We must add that his point of attack seems to us injudiciously selected. The Church of England's destinies are in her own hands; if she remains Protestant she may defy the hostility of any political party; and, if otherwise, her disendowment will be the concurrent work of all. Professor Beesly, in an able paper on the history of French Republicanism, contends that the Republicans were never at any time a majority of the nation, but that they have been steadily augmenting for a much longer period than is usually supposed. This may be the fact, but it may also be a subject for inquiry whether their divisions may not have been augmenting in an equal ratio. The Professor's semi-apology for Napoleon's coup-d'état shows how widely he is himself divided from the most influential sections of the party. If Mr. Disraeli condescends to read Mr. Leslie Stephen's critique on his novels, he will be amused by observing how completely he has contrived to puzzle a clever man. Mr. Ashton Dilke's article on the Caucasus and Mr. Appleton's plea for "The Public Endowment of Research" are meritorious contributions to questions of much importance.

Mr. Gladstone's article on Ritualism in the *Contemporary Review* has already been so fully discussed by the press that we need only record our concurrence in the general disappointment, mingled with some admiration at the writer's ingenuity in evading the only point on which his opinion possesses any special importance. Throughout his paper, the Ritualistic observances of which he treats are assumed to be within the limits of the law. The question how to treat a transgression of the law is never mooted; yet this is the only one on which the verdict of the great legislator carries more weight than that of any other pious and intelligent Churchman. Mr. Matthew Arnold's review of the objections to his "Literature and Dogma" is extremely interesting, but rather justifies than confutes those critics whose objections resolved themselves into the general accusation of over-subtlety, who held that Mr. Arnold's microscope—excellent in its place—imperfectly discharged the office of an eye. Mr. Mivart winds up his papers on "Contemporary Evolution" with the prediction that the progress of modern thought will eventually bring us back to the scholastic philosophy, a species of retrogressive evolution to which he will hardly find a parallel in the physical world. This might be of less importance from the point of view of Professor Clifford, who, in his "Philosophy of the Pure Sciences," appears to question whether we have any knowledge of the external world at all. Mr. Fergusson strongly denounces the plans of his brother architect, Mr. Burgess, for the decoration of St. Paul's, alike on grounds of taste and of economy.

In addition to the usual instalment—as excellent as usual—of Mr. Black's novel, the *Cornhill* claims attention by a simple and pathetic tale, "Keeping Faith," and several miscellaneous contributions of considerable interest. The homely but salient individuality of Crabbe is exactly adapted to Mr. Leslie Stephen's style of criticism, and his essay on "Nature's sternest painter" is among the best of his literary disquisitions. In another critical paper Virgil is soundly rebuked for the tameness and conventionality of his marine descriptions. It is, perhaps, not sufficiently recollected that the ancient standard of taste in this department of composition differed widely from ours. As a probable bone of contention between China and Japan, the island of Formosa has fairly entitled itself to the circumstantial notice it receives; while the information imparted on the authority of Professor Young, that the sun is a huge bubble, is an acceptable contribution to the sensational department of astronomy.

The leading article in *Macmillan* is Professor Huxley's simple and masculine address at the dedication of the Priestley memorial at Birmingham, already reported in the papers, but deserving of preservation in a more permanent form. A memoir of the lively and original Lady Duff Gordon is full of interest. Bret Harte's "Fool of Five Forks" is scarcely among his happiest efforts; the humour is a little thin, and the pathos more than a little artificial. "The Poor Whites of India," by Sir A. Arbuthnot, is an eloquent appeal on behalf of the neglected Eurasian population. Professor F. W. Newman treats in *Fraser* of a more extensive and perplexing problem in Indian affairs—the adjustment of the relations of the natives with the dominant race. Judging from the general tone of the Indian press, we should be inclined to consider these as more satisfactory than Mr. Newman supposes, although there must inevitably be room for complaint so long as the country is the resort of the coarse and ignorant Englishmen whose descendants are creating the difficulty discussed by Sir A. Arbuthnot. Of the minor evils exposed by Mr. Newman it may be said that they are either in a way to be remedied or are unavoidable in the present low moral condition of the country. The greatest curiosity in the number is a translation of a laudatory sketch of the Empress Eugénie, published anonymously some years since, and now known to have been written by her husband. Apart from the authorship, it is sufficiently insipid. M. Barrère relieves M. Louis Blanc from the imputation of having devised and organised the unlucky *ateliers nationaux* of 1848, but does not show that his own schemes were any less impracticable. The fortunes of Sterne's daughter, Lydia Medalle, form the subject of an interesting article. The analysis of "A Chinese Love Story" will convince all readers of the justice of Carlyle's dictum that the author was a true man of genius, albeit "on the dragon pattern." They will also be favourably impressed by the politeness and suavity of the manners described, the intimate relations of parents and daughters, and the latitude allowed to the latter in following their inclinations.

The weightiest contribution to *Blackwood* is one of the shortest—a few pages condemnatory of the present system of Army control, from the pen of General Lysons, whose recent experience should render his opinion of especial value. "School Board Religion" is another short but valuable article, dealing with the subject in a spirit of enlightened liberality which we trust to see universal. The writer of a sketch of "Simla and its

Celebrities" will surprise most readers by the assertion that this famous sanitarium, however preferable to Calcutta, is, after all, an unhealthy spot. The most interesting part of the article is the sketch of Lord Northbrook and other Indian statesmen. The present instalment of "Alice Lorraine" is one of the best, lively and pathetic by turns, with remarkable freshness of natural description. The Conservative triumph has put *Blackwood* into a good humour, and it condescends to allow that the present race of Liberals, so long the objects of its vituperation, are, after all, abler than Wilkes and more patriotic than Fox.

The *Month*, which is much more interesting than usual of late, contains a notice of Professor Tyndall's address from the Roman Catholic point of view; a learned article on the Athanasian Creed, endeavouring to prove that document to be contemporary with Athanasius, although not his work; a curious account of a Jesuit missionary's labours at Ormuz; and a lamentation over the so-called persecutions of Catholic Bishops in Switzerland, which reads oddly in connection with another essay, in which it is laid down that in a perfect State "the germs of dissent will be crushed and rendered abortive by the secular power wearing an iron hand in a silken glove." Perhaps Switzerland is such a State.

Besides Mr. Francillon's original and piquant "Olympia," the *Gentleman's Magazine* challenges favourable notice by a review of the weak pretensions of the possible candidates for the Liberal leadership; M. Barrère's paper on the great actor Lemaitre, and Mr. Jerrold's illustrations of the ruinous foibles of M. Thiers. "Linley Rochford" is still the chief feature in *Tinsley*, which also has an interesting notice of the "Young Roscius," who recently died so old. *Belgravia*, as usual, contains much agreeable miscellaneous reading. The mysterious subject of "The Song of Fishes" affords the pièce de résistance to the *Popular Science Review*, which further treats of "The Classification of Comets," "The First Principles of Aerial Transit," and the Channel tunnel. It is a nice question whether the balloon or the tunnel will first be practicable. In *London Society* we have to note the resumption of Mr. O'Shaughnessy's "Portraits Charmants;" and in *Good Words* a feeling, if slightly exaggerated, tribute to the literary and moral worth of the late Sydney Dobell. We have also to acknowledge the Argosy, the Victoria Magazine, the New Monthly, Good Things, Cassell's Magazine, the Sunday Magazine, Once a Week, and May Fair—the latter a new and apparently an amateur venture.

The *New Quarterly*, which continues to rise in interest, contains a wild and striking, though somewhat too ambitiously written, novelette by the author of "Olive Varcoe;" a pretty tale by Miss Macquoid; the conclusion of Mr. Latouche's graphic and instructive Portuguese tour; and an interesting, though by no means exhaustive, catalogue, by Miss Cobbe, of the fantastic monsters of fable and romance. More important than any of these is Mr. R. Jeffries's comparison between large and small farms, greatly to the advantage of the former. The writer admits, however, that the land might be made even more productive under the allotment system, and declares the choice to rest between very large holdings and very small ones. Mr. Harness is unable to impart novelty to the worn-out topic of spiritualism, and Mr. Buchanan only surveys Goethe's versatile character from a single and exceedingly restricted point of observation.

Mr. Butler and some other persons who were recently captured in Morocco have been released through the intervention of the Spanish representative at Mogador.

A despatch from Berne states that the inhabitants of the Canton of Soleure have ratified, by 8356 votes against 5890, the decision of the Grand Council suppressing the convents of Mariastein and the Chapters of St. Urs and St. Leodegard. In the Jura thirty-five Liberal Catholic communities have been constituted without difficulty.

Mr. J. G. Hanks, of Oxford, who, fifty years ago, was an inhabitant of Witney, has presented to the Rector and churchwardens of that place the sum of £1000 in the funds, the interest of which is to be given to the poor in coals. He has also promised that, if a new church clock is put up and the church set in order, he will contribute half the cost.

Cambridge Hall, a public building erected by the Corporation of Southport to supplement the Townhall, was formally opened, on Tuesday, by the Right Hon. Ashtown Cross, Home Secretary. The event was afterwards celebrated with a banquet, at which Mr. Cross made a brief speech touching chiefly on subjects of local interest.

The Duke of Cambridge and staff arrived at Portsmouth on Monday evening, and next morning the troops assembled on Southsea-common, where they were inspected. They were afterwards marched past, and put through a variety of evolutions. In the afternoon the Duke went on board the Malabar troop-ship. On Wednesday there were a review and a sham fight at Browdown.

In consideration of the promise of the Gas-Light and Coke Company to reduce the price of their gas, a motion was submitted to the Metropolitan Board of Works, yesterday week, to rescind their recent resolution that a bill should be prepared to enable the Board to provide an independent supply. The motion, however, was much opposed, and was lost by a large majority. It was then agreed that the resolution above referred to should be considered by the works committee, with power to confer with the City authorities on the subject.—A new system of supplying the parish of Paddington with gas has been inaugurated. The parish authorities, by virtue of an award made by the gas referees, have insisted upon the gas used in the street lamps being supplied by meter, and they have purchased, at a cost of from £1 to £2 each, the lamp columns, for which they had paid the gas company an annual rental of 6s. each for the last thirty years. They have also taken into their own hands the work of lighting and extinguishing the lamps, and by the adoption of this method a large annual saving is anticipated.

Mr. Rodwell, Q.C. (Conservative), was, on Saturday last, elected without opposition member for Cambridge, in place of the late Lord George Manners.—Northampton election resulted, on Tuesday, in the return of Mr. Merewether, the Conservative candidate, who polled 2171 votes, against 1836 for Mr. Fowler and 1766 for Mr. Bradlaugh. Great excitement prevailed.—Mr. W. H. Pole Carew, who fought with Mr. Tremayne, M.P., the late electoral contest in East Cornwall, has been presented with £825 towards his election expenses.—A testimonial, in the shape of a solid silver épergne over three feet high, will shortly be presented to Mr. Otway, late M.P. for Chatham, "in recognition of his long and faithful services in Parliament."—A banquet was held at Thirsk, last Saturday night, to celebrate the inauguration of the Thirsk and District Working Men's Conservative Association. Amongst those present were the Earl of Faversham, Sir W. Galloway, M.P., the Hon. James Lowther, M.P., Sir Charles Legard, M.P., and Mr. Basil Woodd, M.P. Over 700 guests attended, and the proceedings were enthusiastic.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All communications relating to this department of the paper should be addressed to the Editor, and have the word "Chess" written on the envelope.

S H (Nottingham).—Accept our best thanks for the contributions, which will always be most welcome.

SHANGHAI.—A is not entitled to castle under the circumstances.

E J CORRETT.—The problem, we regret to say, is too simple for our columns.

DR. G THOMSON and R D T.—There is no mate—e.g., 1. P to Q Kt 4th. 1. R checks. 2. K to R 3rd. 2. R to Kt 6th (ch). 3. B takes R. 3. P takes B, &c.

W G WOOD.—Black can check with the Knight at his second move.

MAC and SEYMOUR T.—You appear to have overlooked that Black captures the Pawn with Knight, checking.

B B.—But suppose Black play 1. Kt takes Kt?

S J CLAY.—In reply to 2. B to K 3rd (ch), Black can interpose the Knight.

W N and J E A.—There is no mate as you propose, if Black play 2. B to K B 2nd (ch).

T W.—Most certainly. It is the author's solution.

SIR WALTER RALEIGH.—Surely not, as Black can interpose either Bishop or Knight.

I W.—Problem No. 1596 is quite sound. In reply to 1. Q to Q Kt 4th Black can play 1. Kt to K 3rd, and White cannot mate on the next move. Look at the author's solution again.

EAST MARDEN.—Thanks for the suggestion. Several correspondents have made the same request.

A W, A D M, J G C, F TONIAN, SEYMOUR T, and Others.—In the author's solution of Problem No. 1597 Black's first move, B to Q B 4th, was a misprint for K to Q B 4th. In the last variation, 1. R takes R, ought to be, 1. R to R 4th.

JULIUS L and J JAWIS.—In reply to 1. Kt to Q 3rd, Black can play, 1. B P takes Kt; and White cannot mate in two more moves.

H. SCHLUSSENER, J G C.—But what if Black play, 1. K to Q 3rd?

BEN RHYDDING.—If Black move 1. B to B 2nd, White obviously mates in two more moves. P R, Odessa.—The solution is correct.

L J N, D, and H SCHLUSSENER.—Thanks for the Problems, which shall have early attention.

PROBLEM No. 1597.—Mr. de Gorge's problem, as several correspondents have pointed out admits of a second solution. We have received satisfactory solutions from East Marden, O Vossler, Labor omnia vincit, Kalaf, A D M, J Janin, H Schlusener, Wargrave, W Airey, W V G D, J E Watson, Emile F, Jane D, Silurian, and C J Cole.

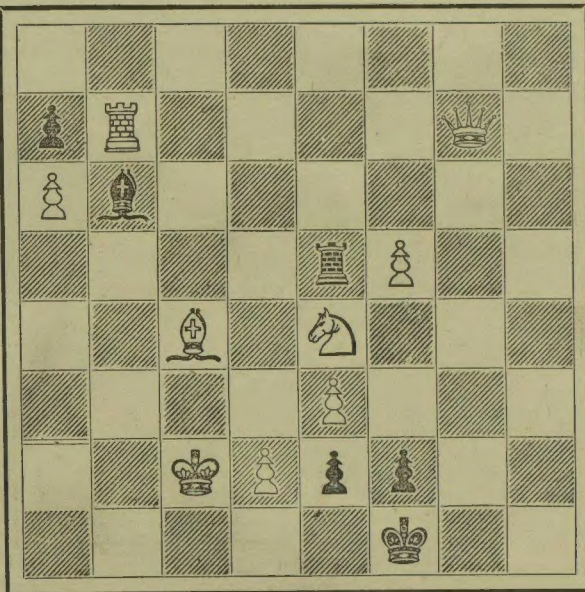
PROBLEM No. 1598.—Correct solutions received from Polymetis, Wovley, Etonian, A D M, W F Payne, and L L.

. At the request of numerous correspondents, we shall in future hold over the solutions of our problems for a fortnight.

PROBLEM No. 1599.

By Mr. W. GRIMSHAW.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

CHESS IN GERMANY.

The following well-fought Game was recently played at Breslau between Professor ANDERSEN and Mr. S. HAMEL, the president of the Nottingham Chess Club.—(The Greco Counter-Gambit.)

WHITE (Mr. H.) BLACK (Prof. A.)
1. P to K 4th P to K 4th
2. B to Q B 4th P to K B 4th

A specimen of this chivalrous defence is nowadays quite a treat, if only on account of its rarity.

3. P takes P

The capture of the gambit Pawn is condemned by all the authorities, as it at once converts the attack into a defence. The correct move is 3. P to Q 3rd, resolving the game into a well-known form of the King's Gambit Declined, with the players reversed.

3. Kt to K B 3rd

4. P to K Kt 4th

White might also play 4. P to Q 4th, or retire the Bishop to K 2nd, converting the opening into the Cunningham Gambit.

4. P to Q 4th

5. B to Q Kt 3rd

We should have preferred retreating this Bishop to King's 2nd.

5. P to K R 4th

6. P to K Kt 5th Kt to K 5th

7. P to Q 3rd

Better, we think, than 7. P to K B 4th. In the latter case the following is a probable continuation.

7. P to K R 4th B to Q B 4th

8. Kt to K R 3rd Q B takes P

9. P to Q 3rd B takes Kt

10. P takes Kt B to K Kt 7th, &c.

10. P takes Kt Kt to Q B 4th

Had he taken the Kt P with the Knight, White would have equally rejoined with 8. Q to K 2nd.

8. Q to K 2nd Kt to Q B 3rd

9. Kt to K B 3rd Kt takes B

10. R P takes Kt B to Q Kt 5th (ch)

11. P to Q B 3rd B to Q 3rd

12. Kt to K R 4th P to Q Kt 3rd

13. P to K B 4th K to Q 2nd

The best reply.

14. P to Q 4th R to K sq

15. B P takes P Kt takes K P

16. Castles Kt to K Kt 5th

17. Q to K Kt 2nd B takes R P (ch)

18. K to R sq K to Q B 3rd

19. Kt to Q R 3rd K to Kt 2nd

20. B to Q 2nd B to Q 2nd

21. Kt to Q B 2nd

We are inclined to think that Mr. Hamel might have greatly improved his game by playing at this point 21. Q R to K sq.

21. Q R to K sq R to K 5th

22. Q R to K sq Q to K Kt sq

A good move, enabling him to bring his Queen's Rook into immediate action, and preventing—

R takes R P takes R

Q takes P (ch) B to Q B 3rd

P to Q 6th, &c.

WHITE (Mr. H.) BLACK (Prof. A.)
P takes R
P takes R
Kt takes Kt
B to Q 3rd

White has conducted this up-hill defence with commendable care and skill, and has now almost as good a game as his adversary.

27. B to K B 4th

28. Q to K Kt 3rd strikes us as being more to the purpose.

28. B to K 5th

29. P to K 5th

Here, again, we think White might have obtained a marked advantage by 29. Kt to K Kt 6th.

29. P to Q 5th

30. P takes B (ch) R takes B

31. Kt to Kt 6th K to Kt sq

32. P to K B 6th P takes R

33. Kt to K B 4th P to K 6th

34. Kt to K 2nd P takes P

35. R takes P Q to K 2nd

36. Q to Q 5th P to Q R 4th

37. R to B 7th Q to K 3rd

38. Q takes Q R takes Q

39. R to K B 6th K to B sq

40. P takes R K to K sq

41. K to Kt 2nd K to K sq

42. Kt to K B 4th P to K Kt 5th

43. K to B 3rd K to B 2nd

44. K takes P B to Q 3rd

45. Kt to Q 5th P to R 6th

46. K to B 2nd K to K 3rd

47. K to Kt sq P to Q Kt 4th

48. K to R sq P to Q R 5th

49. K to Kt sq

50. Kt to Q B 3rd

A slip which loses the game forthwith.

Had he played simply 50. P takes R P, it is not easy to see how Black could have won.

50. B to K 4th

Black takes prompt advantage of his opponent's error.

51. P takes R P B takes Kt

52. B P takes P B to Q Kt 5th

53. K to R 2nd K takes P

54. K takes P K to K 3rd

55. K to Kt 4th K to Q 3rd

56. K to B 4th K to K 4th

57. K to K 4th B to Q R 4th

58. K to Q 3rd K to Kt 5th

59. K to Q 4th B to Kt 3rd (ch),

and White resigned.

CHESS INTELLIGENCE.

NEW CHESS WORK BY THE LATE MR. STAUNTON.—Our readers will be glad to hear that the new chess work upon which the late Mr. Staunton was engaged at the time of his death is in a far more advanced state than was anticipated, and will shortly be published by Messrs. Virtue and Co.

THE PROVINCIAL CHALLENGE CUP.—The match between Mr. Owen and Mr. Gossip for the Provincial Challenge Cup has come to an untimely termination, Mr. Gossip having resigned, owing, it is said, to ill-health. Only five games were played, the score being—Mr. Owen, 2; Mr. Gossip, 1; drawn, 2. Should the winner succeed in holding the cup until the 17th of this month it will become his absolute property.

THE COUNTIES CHESS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of this association will be held next year at Glasgow.

MATCH BETWEEN MESSRS. OWEN AND BURN.—A friendly match has been commenced between Messrs. Burn and Owen, two of our strongest provincial amateurs, the winner of the first eleven games to be the victor.

NEW MATCHES.—Mr. Gossip having signified a desire to play a match with Mr. Thorold, the latter gentleman has expressed his willingness to meet him for that purpose during the Christmas vacation. Mr. Bird has challenged Mr. Steinitz to play a match of seven or eleven games, but at the time we write the negotiations have not progressed beyond the preliminary stage. Mr. Steinitz, we understand, refuses to play for a less stake than £100 a side. The proposed contests between Messrs. McDonnell and Wisker and Messrs. Gossip and Bird, the latter gentleman conceding the odds of Pawn and move, are still in statu quo.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS

MR. BERKELEY, OF SPETCHLEY.

Robert Berkeley, Esq., of Spetchley Park, in the county of Worcester, J.P. and D.L., who died on the 26th ult., represented the Spetchley branch of the noble house of Berkeley, descended more immediately from Sir Robert Berkeley, of Spetchley, one of the Judges of the King's Bench temp. James I. He was born May 21, 1794, the only son of Robert Berkeley, Esq., of Spetchley, by Apollonia, his wife, daughter of Richard Lee, Esq., of Llanfoist, and married, Jan. 24, 1822, Henrietta Sophia, eldest daughter and coheir of Paul Benfield, Esq., M.P., of Grosvenor-square, and had five sons and five daughters. The youngest of the latter, Mary, is Countess of Denbigh; and of the former, the eldest, Robert Berkeley, Esq., now of Spetchley, is married to Lady Mary Catherine Browne, daughter of Thomas, third Earl of Kenmare. The late Mr. Berkeley was Lord of the Manor of Spetchley and patron of four livings.

DR. JACOB.

Arthur Jacob, M.D., F.R.C.S.I., whose death has been announced, was a very distinguished member of the medical profession, and is well known by his discovery of the "Membrana Jacobi," and by his able and important writings on ophthalmia and amaurosis. He was born June 30, 1790, the son of John Jacob, for many years surgeon to the Queen's County Infirmary, and grandson of Michael Jacob, of Ballinakill, also an eminent surgeon. He learned medicine under Abraham Colles, at Stevens's Hospital, Dublin, and graduated as M.D. in the University of Edinburgh in 1814. For many years he was sole editor of the *Dublin Medical Press*, and in it appeared many valuable contributions to the literature of his profession from his pen. He was Professor of Anatomy and Physiology in the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, and thrice filled the president's chair.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will, dated Sept. 4, 1854, of William Stuart, late of Aldenham Abbey, Hertford, and of No. 36, Hill-street, Berkeley-square, who died on July 7 last, was proved on the 26th ult. by William Stuart, his son, the sole executor, the personal estate being sworn under £80,000. The testator bequeaths to his wife, Mrs. Georgiana Adelaide Stuart, £500; to his brother Henry, £100; to each of his grandchildren, £100; to Edward Ellis, if living with him at the time of his death, £200; and to each of his household servants one year's wages, all free of duty. Subject thereto and to the payment of his debts, funeral and testamentary expenses, he gives his real and personal estate to his eldest son, the said William Stuart.

The will, dated June 13 last, of Joshua Wilson, late of Nevill Park, Tunbridge Wells, who died on Aug. 14, was proved on the 23rd ult. by Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., and Thomas Wilson and John Remington Wilson, the sons, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £45,000. The testator bequeaths to the London Missionary Society, £200; to the Home Missionary Society, the Irish Evangelical Society and Congregational Home Mission, and the Colonial Missionary Society, £100, free of legacy duty; to his wife all his furniture and household effects, £300 absolutely, his residence at Nevill Park, and the annual dividends of certain stocks and shares for life. On her death such stocks and shares are to go to his daughter, Miss Mary Elizabeth Wilson, who also takes some other stocks and shares at once. To his eldest son Thomas he devises his Essex and Kent estates, and the residue of his real and personal estate he leaves to his second son, John Remington.

The will, dated Aug. 8, 1866, of William Dougal Christie, C.B., late of No. 32, Dorset-square, Marylebone, who died on July 27 last, was proved on the 27th ult. by Mrs. Mary Christie, the widow, and William Henry Christie, the son, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £7000. The testator leaves all his property to his wife.

The will, dated April 26, 1858, of Charles Laird Wigram, late of Walthamstow, who died on Jan. 16 last at Monte Ortone, near Padua, in Italy, was proved on the 14th ult., under a nominal sum, by his brother, Octavius Wigram, the sole executor and residuary legatee. The testator confirms the dispositions made by him in a deed under which the principal part of his property is vested in trustees.

The will, dated March 29, 1860, of Miss Ella Sadler, late of Colchester, who died on Aug. 31 last, was proved on the 29th ult. by Mrs. Clara Sophia Weir, the niece and one of the next of kin, the personal estate being sworn under £10,000. The testatrix bequeaths to the Essex and Colchester Hospital and the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts £50 each, free of duty, out of such part of her personal property as may by law be applied for charitable purposes.

The new Essex Bridge in Dublin, extending from Parliament-street across the river to Capel-street, has been opened.

The Engraving "Starting for the Pyramids" in our Issue last week was drawn by Mr. Bromley.

The Duke of Northumberland writes to the editor of the *Newcastle Journal* to contradict a rumour widely spread that he has been received into the Roman Catholic Church. The Duke characterises the report as a false and baseless calumny.

The following men have been awarded medals and gratuities for long service and good conduct:—C. F. Hall, boatswain's mate, of her Majesty's ship *Cruiser*; Henry Smart, sailmaker, of the *Asia*; George Kelsey, leading stoker, of the *Asia*; William J. Clarke, leading stoker, of the *Asia*; Thomas Martin, ship's cook, of the *Duke of Wellington*.

Lord Somers, lord of the manor of Reigate, has presented to that town a lease to the Mayor and Corporation for 999 years, at a nominal rent, of several acres of land, immediately adjoining and overlooking the main street, as a pleasure and recreation ground for the inhabitants. The grounds possess special interest as being the site of the ancient castle of Reigate, said to have been built before the Conquest. The structure was almost entirely demolished during the civil wars, and the only relic of it is a barbican built out of the ruins about one hundred years ago. The castle court forms the principal part of the pleasure ground, and from it is to be seen one of the most picturesque landscapes in Surrey. Under the grounds are some extensive caves, in one of which, tradition says, the Barons first arranged the terms of Magna Charta.



SCENE OF THE EXPLOSION ON THE REGENT'S CANAL, AT NORTH GATE, REGENT'S PARK.



ONE OF THE BARGES SUNK BY THE EXPLOSION.